

HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill:	House File 2542 (Formerly HSB 666)	House Committee:	PASSED on February 12 (14-7)
Committee:	Judiciary	House Floor:	PASSED on March 4 (68-23)
Floor Manager:	Rep. Holt		PASSED on May 2 (66-20)
Date:	May 12, 2026	Senate Floor:	PASSED on May 2 (39-6)
Staff:	Amanda Wille (1-5230)	Governor:	

Three Strikes-Habitual Offender

- Requires a person who receives a third conviction of a class “D” or “C” felony to be sentenced as a habitual offender.
- Increases the minimum sentence for a habitual offender from 3 to 7 years.
- Requires probation officers to report probation violations.

Section by Section Analysis

Section 1- Felonies- Minimum Sentence-Habitual Offender (902.8)

Current law allows a prosecutor to classify someone as a habitual offender if they have previously been convicted of two class “C” or “D” felonies and they receive a third conviction.

The amendment requires a person with two prior felonies, who receives their third conviction to be sentenced as a habitual offender. The sentence is a minimum of seven years and earned time does not apply to reduce the sentence.

Section 2- Felonies- Maximum Sentence for Felons (902.9)

The maximum sentence for a habitual offender is 20 years.

Section 3- Deferred Judgement, Deferred or Suspended Sentence, Probation- Probation Service-Probation Officer (907.2)

Requires probation officers to report probation violations.

Section 4- Deferred Judgement, Deferred or Suspended Sentence, Probation- Deferred Judgement, Deferred Sentence, or Suspended Sentence (907.3)

Prohibits a deferred sentence for a habitual offender.

Section 5- Deferred Judgement, Deferred or Suspended Sentence, Probation- Deferred Judgement, Deferred Sentence, or Suspended Sentence (907.3)

Prohibits a suspended sentence for a habitual offender.

Amendment Analysis