

2 **ESSB 5844** - H COMM AMD **ADOPTED 4-15-93**

3 By Committee on Human Services

4

5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.150
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 A volunteer organization or individual volunteer may assist a
10 public agency, with the agency's approval, in a collaborative program
11 designed to serve the needs of at-risk children. The center, with the
12 advice and counsel of the attorney general, shall develop guidelines
13 defining at-risk children and establish reasonable safety standards to
14 protect the safety of program participants and volunteers, including
15 but not limited to background checks for program supervisors or as
16 appropriate as provided in RCW 43.43.830 through 43.43.834. In
17 carrying out the volunteer activity, the individual volunteer or member
18 of the volunteer organization shall not be considered to be an employee
19 or agent of any public agency involved in the collaborative program.
20 Prior to participation, a volunteer and the public agency administering
21 the collaborative program shall sign a written master agreement,
22 approved in form by the attorney general, that includes provisions
23 defining the scope of the volunteer activities and waiving any claims
24 against each other. An individual volunteer shall not be liable for
25 civil damages resulting from any act or omission arising from volunteer
26 activities which comply with safety standards issued by the center for
27 volunteerism and citizen service, other than acts or omissions
28 constituting gross negligence or wilful or wanton misconduct. In any
29 action for damages against a public agency or volunteer organization,
30 a claimant must establish by a preponderance of the evidence that a
31 public agency or other sponsor of a program under this section failed
32 to comply with reasonable safety standards established by the center."

--- END ---