

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 1173

As Reported By House Committee On:
Children & Family Services

Title: An act relating to adoption support.

Brief Description: Modifying adoption support provisions.

Sponsors: Representatives Cooke and Brown; by request of Department of Social and Health Services.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Children & Family Services: 1/26/95, 1/27/95 [DP].

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 11 members: Representatives Cooke, Chair; Lambert, Vice Chair; Stevens, Vice Chair; Thibaudeau, Ranking Minority Member; Brown, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Boldt; Buck; Carrell; Padden; Patterson and Tokuda.

Staff: David Knutson (786-7146).

Background: The adoption support program provides for the adoption of hard to place children living in, or likely to be placed in foster care or institutions. The program provides adoptive parents with either continuing payments or lump sum payments of adoption support. The secretary of the department of social and health services is required to annually review the need to continue adoption support payments to parents and adjust the payment to reflect changes in the medical condition, prognosis, and other changes in the needs of the adoptive child.

Adoptive parents receiving adoption support payments from the department of social and health services are required to submit a copy of their federal income tax return, within two weeks of filing it, to the secretary of the department of social and health services.

Summary of Bill: The secretary of the department of social and health services will periodically review the need to continue adoption support payments or lump sum payments to adoptive parents through the adoption support program. Adoptive

parents receiving adoption support payments will submit copies of their federal income tax return if requested by the secretary of the department of social and health services.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Testimony For: Annual reviews of children receiving adoption support payments are not necessary for most children served by the program. The department of social and health services should not intrude in the lives of families unless it is specifically warranted.

Testimony Against: None.

Testified: Dick Anderson, Department of Social and Health Services (pro).