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SENATE BILL 5512

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State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Senators Stevens, Hargrove, Benton, Haugen, Strannigan, Hochstatter, Rasmussen, Schow and Oke

Read first time 01/29/97. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to admittance of guilt in child abuse and neglect;  
2 and amending RCW 26.44.140.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 26.44.140 and 1991 c 301 s 15 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 The court shall require that an individual who, while acting in a  
7 parental role, has physically or sexually abused a child and has been  
8 removed from the home pursuant to a court order issued in a proceeding  
9 under chapter 13.34 RCW, prior to being permitted to reside in the home  
10 where the child resides, complete the treatment and education  
11 requirements necessary to protect the child from future abuse. The  
12 court may require the individual to continue treatment as a condition  
13 for remaining in the home where the child resides. Unless a parent,  
14 custodian, or guardian has been convicted of the crime for the acts of  
15 abuse determined in a fact-finding hearing under chapter 13.34 RCW,  
16 such person shall not be required to admit guilt or the existence of  
17 any facts in order to complete successfully any necessary treatment and  
18 education requirements under this section.

1       The department of social and health services or supervising agency  
2 shall be responsible for advising the court as to appropriate treatment  
3 and education requirements, providing referrals to the individual,  
4 monitoring and assessing the individual's progress, informing the court  
5 of such progress, and providing recommendations to the court.

6       The person removed from the home shall pay for these services  
7 unless the person is otherwise eligible to receive financial assistance  
8 in paying for such services. Nothing in this section shall be  
9 construed to create in any person an entitlement to services or  
10 financial assistance in paying for services.

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