

# ANALYSIS OF HOUSE BILL 1372

Repealing the requirement to maintain a registry for handicapped children.

SPONSORS: Representatives Shual-Berk and Esser.

**BACKGROUND:** In Washington state birth defects occur in about 2.6 percent of live births. These conditions account for 20 to 30 percent of all infant deaths and numerous cases of disability. While advances in science have contributed to the prevention of birth defect and its related disability the Department of Health (DOH) continues to need accurate data to plan and provide services for these children. Birth defects currently are reported to the agency under the Registry for Handicapped Children (RCW 70.58.300 and 70.58.310) However, the state's notifiable conditions regulations makes the registry statute redundant.

Presently the following are reported:

Anencephaly	Spina bifida	Cleft lip with/without cleft palate
Cleft palate	Limb reduction defects	hypospadias (2nd and 3rd degree)
Gastroschisis	Omphalocele	Down syndrome
Cerebral palsy	Fetal alcohol syndrome	

**SUMMARY:** The bill repeals redundant statutes relying upon existing rules for authority.