

HOUSE BILL ANALYSIS

HB 1842

Title: *An act relating to residential educational programs for at-risk youth who have been released from detention facilities; amending RCW 13.04.145; and creating a new section.*

Brief Description: *Providing for residential educational programs for at-risk youth.*

Sponsors: *Representatives Lambert, Kagi, Edmonds and Tokuda.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES

Meeting Date: *February 18, 1999.*

Bill Analysis Prepared by: *Dave Knutson (786-7146).*

Background: There is a lack of residential programs for adolescent males who would benefit from a structured program that provides education, guidance, and life skills.

Summary of Bill: A juvenile supervision and education program is created to serve juvenile males between the ages of thirteen and twenty-one years of age. To be eligible, a young male must have been released from a detention center. Referrals to the program may come from the superior court or the Department of Social and Health Services. The court must make a finding that the at-risk males behaviors can be controlled in the program or that the program is beneficial for the at-risk male. The Department may refer low-risk males who would function well in the program and prevent future involvement in crime-related activity. Young males referred to the program must agree to remain in the program for at least one year.

The Department must consider two locations for the program; the Northern State Multiservice Center, and the Interlake School located at Eastern State Hospital. Local school districts will provide educational and vocational training programs at each location.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: None.

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