

---

SENATE BILL 6387

---

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Senators Haugen, Hargrove, Swecker, Brown, Patterson, Sheahan, Morton, Long and Costa

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to using funds to improve the legal representation  
2 of indigent parents and children; and amending RCW 2.70.020.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 2.70.020 and 1996 c 221 s 3 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 The director, under the supervision and direction of the advisory  
7 committee, shall:

8 (1) Administer all criminal appellate indigent defense services;

9 (2) Submit a biennial budget for all costs related to state  
10 appellate indigent defense;

11 (3) Establish administrative procedures, standards, and guidelines  
12 for the program including a cost-efficient system that provides for  
13 recovery of costs;

14 (4) Recommend criteria and standards for determining and verifying  
15 indigency. In recommending criteria for determining indigency, the  
16 director shall compile and review the indigency standards used by other  
17 state agencies and shall periodically submit the compilation and report  
18 to the legislature on the appropriateness and consistency of such  
19 standards;

1 (5) Collect information regarding indigency cases funded by the  
2 state and report annually to the legislature and the supreme court;

3 (6) Coordinate with the supreme court and the judges of each  
4 division of the court of appeals to determine how attorney services  
5 should be provided;

6 (7) Within the funds appropriated for this purpose, administer and  
7 distribute funds to improve the legal representation of indigent  
8 parents and children in dependency, state-initiated paternity, and  
9 termination cases.

10 The office of public defense shall not provide direct  
11 representation of clients.

--- END ---