

1663

Sponsor(s): Representatives Lambert, Constantine, McDonald, Kagi, Carrell, Edwards, Kastama and Santos

Brief Title: Creating a unified family court.

HB 1663 - DIGEST

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 1ST SUB)

Recognizes the increased complexity of the problems facing family members and the increased complexity of the laws affecting families. It is believed that in such situations, an efficient and effective response is through the creation of a unified court system centered around the family that: Provides a dedicated, trained, and informed judiciary; incorporates case management practices based on a family's judicial system needs; enables multiple case type resolution by one judicial officer or judicial team; provides coordinated legal and social services; and considers and evaluates the needs of the family as a whole.

Provides for three pilot projects for a report to the legislature on the effectiveness of the program.