

2020

Sponsor(s): Representatives Esser, Carrell, Edmonds, Lambert, Lovick and McDonald

Brief Title: Providing criminal penalties for making false accusations in family law proceedings.

HB 2020 - DIGEST

Provides that, if a court determines that a false accusation of child abuse or neglect has been made during a proceeding under this act relating to a parenting plan or child custody, and the person making or the person enticing another to make the accusation knew it to be false at the time the accusation was made, the court may impose a monetary penalty, not to exceed one thousand dollars and reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in recovering the penalty, against the person making or the person enticing another to make the accusation. The remedy provided by this subsection is in addition to any other remedy or penalty provided by law.

Declares that a person is guilty of a class C felony punishable under chapter 9A.20 RCW if he or she intentionally makes or entices another to make a false accusation of child abuse or neglect during a proceeding under this act relating to a parenting plan or child custody and the person making or the person enticing another to make the accusation knew it to be false at the time the accusation is made.