

6656-S

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Senators Eide, Kohl-Welles, Finkbeiner, Brown, Rasmussen, Goings, Patterson, Haugen, Gardner, Shin, Heavey, Jacobsen and Costa)

Brief Description: Commissioning a study of educational experiences and achievement levels of children in the state's foster care system.

SB 6656-S - DIGEST

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Directs the institute for public policy to conduct a study that examines the educational experiences and achievement levels of students who have spent at least ninety days in the state's foster care system. The study may include either all or a statistically valid subset of students in the system.

Provides that the study should include a student specific comparison of discipline issues and special education services experiences prior to and during placement in foster care.

Directs the institute for public policy to consult with the office of the superintendent of public instruction and the department of social and health services to assist in the design and implementation of the study.

Provides that, by December 1, 2000, the institute shall provide a preliminary report on its progress to the governor and appropriate committees of the house of representatives and the senate. By July 1, 2001, the institute shall provide a final report on the results of the study to the governor and appropriate legislative committees. The report may include recommendations for improving the educational experience, graduation rates, and achievement levels of students in foster care.

Makes an appropriation of one hundred thousand dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, from the general fund to the institute for public policy for the study in this act.