

FINAL BILL REPORT

ESSB 6535

C 42 L 02
Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Authorizing a disposition outside the standard range for the chemical dependency disposition alternative for juvenile offenders.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senator Hargrove).

Senate Committee on Human Services & Corrections
House Committee on Juvenile Justice & Family Law

Background: Currently, a judge may only order a juvenile into a chemical dependency disposition alternative (CDDA) if the judge can suspend local sanctions or, in a small number of cases, a sentence of 15 to 36 weeks confinement. There has been a concern raised by some judges and courts that not having the option of granting a "manifest justice up" and then suspending the sentence so a juvenile offender can complete a CDDA is denying juvenile offenders the opportunity for treatment and in some cases not providing the offender with the necessary motivation to complete the CDDA.

Summary: The courts are permitted to grant a manifest injustice upward and suspend the sentence so that a juvenile offender can be ordered to complete a chemical dependency disposition alternative. When the court grants a manifest injustice above the standard range, it is limited to a 52 week total confinement sentence.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	48	0
House	97	0

Effective: June 13, 2002