

2439-S

Sponsor(s): House Committee on Children & Family Services (originally sponsored by Representatives O'Brien, Edwards, Schmidt, Benson, Jackley, Ballasiotes, Morris, Simpson, Van Luven, Lovick, Wood, Esser, Darneille, Ogden, Pflug and Haigh)

Brief Description: Specifying services that should be available for children with developmental disabilities.

HB 2439-S - DIGEST

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Recognizes the importance of the option provided in RCW 74.13.350 for the parent of a child with developmental disabilities to seek an out-of-home placement through a voluntary placement agreement to obtain needed services for the child.

Declares an intent that a child with developmental disabilities receive components of the current array of services and supports in the family home at a level of intensity such that entry into the voluntary placement program occurs only when necessary.

Authorizes the department to provide appropriate components of the currently available services and supports array to an eligible child with developmental disabilities at a level comparable to that provided in the voluntary placement program, excluding the room and board component of that program.

Requires the department to assure that these services assist families in keeping the child in the family home until it is appropriate and feasible for the child to live elsewhere. The department shall determine eligibility for services under chapter 71A.16 RCW.