

**SB 5379 - S AMD 148**

By Senators Stevens, Hargrove

ADOPTED 03/19/2003

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 13.34.115 and 2000 c 122 s 12 are each amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 All hearings (~~may~~) shall be public, and conducted at any time or  
6 place within the limits of the county(~~, and such cases may not be~~  
7 ~~heard in conjunction with other business of any other division of the~~  
8 ~~superior court. The public shall be excluded, and only such persons~~  
9 ~~may be admitted who are found by the judge to have a direct interest in~~  
10 ~~the case or in the work of the court. Unless the court states on the~~  
11 ~~record the reasons to disallow attendance, the court shall allow a~~  
12 ~~child's relatives and, if a child resides in foster care, the child's~~  
13 ~~foster parent, to attend all hearings and proceedings pertaining to the~~  
14 ~~child for the sole purpose of providing oral and written information~~  
15 ~~about the child and the child's welfare to the court)).~~

16 If the court finds that there is reasonable cause to believe that  
17 the health, safety, or welfare of the child would be jeopardized by  
18 conducting a public hearing, the court may exclude the public. In  
19 addition, both parents may request that the court exclude the public,  
20 subject to the court's discretion.

21 Stenographic notes or any device which accurately records the  
22 proceedings may be required as provided in other civil cases pursuant  
23 to RCW 2.32.200."

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1        On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "hearings;" strike the  
2 remainder of the title and insert "and amending RCW 13.34.115."

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