
HOUSE BILL 2792

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By Representatives Kagi, Boldt, Dickerson, Shabro, Darneille, Roach, Pettigrew, Bailey, Cody, McIntire, Moeller, Schual-Berke, Chase, Kenney and Morrell

Read first time 01/20/2004. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to collaboration among public and private providers
2 of child welfare services; and creating new sections.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that both the
5 department of social and health services and community-based agencies
6 play integral roles in protecting and supporting vulnerable children
7 and youth throughout the state. By strengthening collaboration on
8 decision making and service delivery, the department and community-
9 based agencies can improve services for families by ensuring consistent
10 availability and implementation of programs throughout the state and
11 can ensure the best utilization of available funds to meet the needs of
12 Washington's families.

13 The legislature further finds that there is a growing body of
14 research literature on proven services for families involved in the
15 child welfare system. Research can and should guide funding decisions
16 in our communities, ensuring that proven strategies are utilized to
17 meet particular local needs.

18 It is the intent of the legislature to establish a process to
19 ensure collaboration of department of social and health services staff

1 and community-based agency staff in the provision of services to
2 families involved in the child welfare system with a focus on
3 implementing research-based practices across the state.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The department of social and health
5 services shall convene regional and local department staff and
6 community-based agency staff to develop recommended policies and
7 protocols concerning the following:

8 (a) Collaborative decision making relating to both administrative
9 processes and services provided to families, including, but not limited
10 to, contracting practices, referral practices, and resource allocation;
11 and

12 (b) Integration of research-based practices into child welfare
13 throughout the state.

14 (2) The department of social and health services shall submit its
15 recommended policies and protocols developed pursuant to subsection (1)
16 of this section to the governor and the appropriate committees of the
17 legislature by December 1, 2004.

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