
HOUSE BILL 3153

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2006 Regular Session

By Representatives Halper, Pettigrew, Roberts, Kagi and Kenney

Read first time 01/23/2006. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to retention of records regarding child abuse and
2 neglect; and adding a new section to chapter 26.44 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 26.44 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) Except as provided in RCW 26.44.031, the department shall
7 retain records regarding child abuse or neglect referrals that result
8 in a finding of inconclusive or for which there is not sufficient
9 evidence to make a determination, for not less than twenty years. The
10 department shall retain indefinitely the records regarding:

11 (a) Referrals that result in a founded complaint or for which the
12 evidence indicates that more likely than not the abuse or neglect
13 allegations were accurate; and

14 (b) Referrals that result in a termination of parental rights.

15 (2) Records must be maintained in such a manner that the department
16 can identify persons by name and date of birth, or by any other means
17 permitted by law. The department shall conduct a search of the records

1 retained under this section for decisions related to child care
2 licenses, adoptions, and out-of-home placements.

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