

**HB 2397-S - DIGEST**

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Provides that, to the extent funding is appropriated in the operating budget, the mental health division of the health and recovery services administration, in collaboration with the children's administration, within the department shall establish a pilot program to support collaborative local efforts to select, implement, and ensure quality evidence-based mental health services provided to children by December 2006.

Requires that, beginning in July 2007, the Washington state institute for public policy shall conduct a study of the pilot program measuring improvements in the delivery of mental health services to children. The institute shall issue a report containing its preliminary findings to the legislature by December 1, 2007, and a final report by December 1, 2008.

Declares that implementation of this program is subject to the availability of funds.