

**2SSB 6206** - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Appropriations

ADOPTED AND ENGROSSED 03/05/2008

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

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 74.13.640 and 2004 c 36 s 1 are each amended to read  
4 as follows:

5 (1) The department of social and health services shall conduct a  
6 child fatality review in the event of an unexpected death of a minor in  
7 the state who is in the care of or receiving services described in  
8 chapter 74.13 RCW from the department or who has been in the care of or  
9 received services described in chapter 74.13 RCW from the department  
10 within one year preceding the minor's death.

11 (2) Upon conclusion of a child fatality review required pursuant to  
12 subsection (1) of this section, the department shall within one hundred  
13 eighty days following the fatality issue a report on the results of the  
14 review (~~(to the appropriate committees of the legislature and shall~~  
15 ~~make copies of the report available to the public upon request)),  
16 unless an extension has been granted by the governor. Reports shall be  
17 distributed to the appropriate committees of the legislature, and the  
18 department shall create a public web site where all child fatality  
19 review reports required under this section shall be posted and  
20 maintained.~~

21 (3) The department shall develop and implement procedures to carry  
22 out the requirements of subsections (1) and (2) of this section.

23 (4) In the event a child fatality is the result of apparent abuse  
24 or neglect by the child's parent or caregiver, the department shall  
25 ensure that the fatality review team is comprised of individuals who  
26 had no previous involvement in the case and whose professional  
27 expertise is pertinent to the dynamics of the case.

28 (5) In the event of a near-fatality of a child who is in the care  
29 of or receiving services described in this chapter from the department  
30 or who has been in the care of or received services described in this

1 chapter from the department within one year preceding the  
2 near-fatality, the department shall promptly notify the office of the  
3 family and children's ombudsman.

4 **NEW SECTION.** **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.06A RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 The office of the family and children's ombudsman shall issue an  
7 annual report to the legislature on the status of the implementation of  
8 child fatality review recommendations.

9 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.06A.100 and 1999 c 390 s 5 are each amended to read  
10 as follows:

11 The department of social and health services shall:

12 (1) Allow the ombudsman or the ombudsman's designee to communicate  
13 privately with any child in the custody of the department for the  
14 purposes of carrying out its duties under this chapter;

15 (2) Permit the ombudsman or the ombudsman's designee physical  
16 access to state institutions serving children, and state licensed  
17 facilities or residences for the purpose of carrying out its duties  
18 under this chapter;

19 (3) Upon the ombudsman's request, grant the ombudsman or the  
20 ombudsman's designee the right to access, inspect, and copy all  
21 relevant information, records, or documents in the possession or  
22 control of the department that the ombudsman considers necessary in an  
23 investigation; and

24 (4) Grant the office of the family and children's ombudsman  
25 unrestricted on-line access to the case and management information  
26 system (CAMIS) or any successor information system for the purpose of  
27 carrying out its duties under this chapter.

28 **Sec. 4.** RCW 26.44.030 and 2007 c 387 s 3 are each amended to read  
29 as follows:

30 (1)(a) When any practitioner, county coroner or medical examiner,  
31 law enforcement officer, professional school personnel, registered or  
32 licensed nurse, social service counselor, psychologist, pharmacist,  
33 employee of the department of early learning, licensed or certified  
34 child care providers or their employees, employee of the department,  
35 juvenile probation officer, placement and liaison specialist,

1 responsible living skills program staff, HOPE center staff, or state  
2 family and children's ombudsman or any volunteer in the ombudsman's  
3 office has reasonable cause to believe that a child has suffered abuse  
4 or neglect, he or she shall report such incident, or cause a report to  
5 be made, to the proper law enforcement agency or to the department as  
6 provided in RCW 26.44.040.

7 (b) When any person, in his or her official supervisory capacity  
8 with a nonprofit or for-profit organization, has reasonable cause to  
9 believe that a child has suffered abuse or neglect caused by a person  
10 over whom he or she regularly exercises supervisory authority, he or  
11 she shall report such incident, or cause a report to be made, to the  
12 proper law enforcement agency, provided that the person alleged to have  
13 caused the abuse or neglect is employed by, contracted by, or  
14 volunteers with the organization and coaches, trains, educates, or  
15 counsels a child or children or regularly has unsupervised access to a  
16 child or children as part of the employment, contract, or voluntary  
17 service. No one shall be required to report under this section when he  
18 or she obtains the information solely as a result of a privileged  
19 communication as provided in RCW 5.60.060.

20 Nothing in this subsection (1)(b) shall limit a person's duty to  
21 report under (a) of this subsection.

22 For the purposes of this subsection, the following definitions  
23 apply:

24 (i) "Official supervisory capacity" means a position, status, or  
25 role created, recognized, or designated by any nonprofit or for-profit  
26 organization, either for financial gain or without financial gain,  
27 whose scope includes, but is not limited to, overseeing, directing, or  
28 managing another person who is employed by, contracted by, or  
29 volunteers with the nonprofit or for-profit organization.

30 (ii) "Regularly exercises supervisory authority" means to act in  
31 his or her official supervisory capacity on an ongoing or continuing  
32 basis with regards to a particular person.

33 (c) The reporting requirement also applies to department of  
34 corrections personnel who, in the course of their employment, observe  
35 offenders or the children with whom the offenders are in contact. If,  
36 as a result of observations or information received in the course of  
37 his or her employment, any department of corrections personnel has  
38 reasonable cause to believe that a child has suffered abuse or neglect,

1 he or she shall report the incident, or cause a report to be made, to  
2 the proper law enforcement agency or to the department as provided in  
3 RCW 26.44.040.

4 (d) The reporting requirement shall also apply to any adult who has  
5 reasonable cause to believe that a child who resides with them, has  
6 suffered severe abuse, and is able or capable of making a report. For  
7 the purposes of this subsection, "severe abuse" means any of the  
8 following: Any single act of abuse that causes physical trauma of  
9 sufficient severity that, if left untreated, could cause death; any  
10 single act of sexual abuse that causes significant bleeding, deep  
11 bruising, or significant external or internal swelling; or more than  
12 one act of physical abuse, each of which causes bleeding, deep  
13 bruising, significant external or internal swelling, bone fracture, or  
14 unconsciousness.

15 (e) The report must be made at the first opportunity, but in no  
16 case longer than forty-eight hours after there is reasonable cause to  
17 believe that the child has suffered abuse or neglect. The report must  
18 include the identity of the accused if known.

19 (2) The reporting requirement of subsection (1) of this section  
20 does not apply to the discovery of abuse or neglect that occurred  
21 during childhood if it is discovered after the child has become an  
22 adult. However, if there is reasonable cause to believe other children  
23 are or may be at risk of abuse or neglect by the accused, the reporting  
24 requirement of subsection (1) of this section does apply.

25 (3) Any other person who has reasonable cause to believe that a  
26 child has suffered abuse or neglect may report such incident to the  
27 proper law enforcement agency or to the department of social and health  
28 services as provided in RCW 26.44.040.

29 (4) The department, upon receiving a report of an incident of  
30 alleged abuse or neglect pursuant to this chapter, involving a child  
31 who has died or has had physical injury or injuries inflicted upon him  
32 or her other than by accidental means or who has been subjected to  
33 alleged sexual abuse, shall report such incident to the proper law  
34 enforcement agency. In emergency cases, where the child's welfare is  
35 endangered, the department shall notify the proper law enforcement  
36 agency within twenty-four hours after a report is received by the  
37 department. In all other cases, the department shall notify the law  
38 enforcement agency within seventy-two hours after a report is received

1 by the department. If the department makes an oral report, a written  
2 report must also be made to the proper law enforcement agency within  
3 five days thereafter.

4 (5) Any law enforcement agency receiving a report of an incident of  
5 alleged abuse or neglect pursuant to this chapter, involving a child  
6 who has died or has had physical injury or injuries inflicted upon him  
7 or her other than by accidental means, or who has been subjected to  
8 alleged sexual abuse, shall report such incident in writing as provided  
9 in RCW 26.44.040 to the proper county prosecutor or city attorney for  
10 appropriate action whenever the law enforcement agency's investigation  
11 reveals that a crime may have been committed. The law enforcement  
12 agency shall also notify the department of all reports received and the  
13 law enforcement agency's disposition of them. In emergency cases,  
14 where the child's welfare is endangered, the law enforcement agency  
15 shall notify the department within twenty-four hours. In all other  
16 cases, the law enforcement agency shall notify the department within  
17 seventy-two hours after a report is received by the law enforcement  
18 agency.

19 (6) Any county prosecutor or city attorney receiving a report under  
20 subsection (5) of this section shall notify the victim, any persons the  
21 victim requests, and the local office of the department, of the  
22 decision to charge or decline to charge a crime, within five days of  
23 making the decision.

24 (7) The department may conduct ongoing case planning and  
25 consultation with those persons or agencies required to report under  
26 this section, with consultants designated by the department, and with  
27 designated representatives of Washington Indian tribes if the client  
28 information exchanged is pertinent to cases currently receiving child  
29 protective services. Upon request, the department shall conduct such  
30 planning and consultation with those persons required to report under  
31 this section if the department determines it is in the best interests  
32 of the child. Information considered privileged by statute and not  
33 directly related to reports required by this section must not be  
34 divulged without a valid written waiver of the privilege.

35 (8) Any case referred to the department by a physician licensed  
36 under chapter 18.57 or 18.71 RCW on the basis of an expert medical  
37 opinion that child abuse, neglect, or sexual assault has occurred and  
38 that the child's safety will be seriously endangered if returned home,

1 the department shall file a dependency petition unless a second  
2 licensed physician of the parents' choice believes that such expert  
3 medical opinion is incorrect. If the parents fail to designate a  
4 second physician, the department may make the selection. If a  
5 physician finds that a child has suffered abuse or neglect but that  
6 such abuse or neglect does not constitute imminent danger to the  
7 child's health or safety, and the department agrees with the  
8 physician's assessment, the child may be left in the parents' home  
9 while the department proceeds with reasonable efforts to remedy  
10 parenting deficiencies.

11 (9) Persons or agencies exchanging information under subsection (7)  
12 of this section shall not further disseminate or release the  
13 information except as authorized by state or federal statute.  
14 Violation of this subsection is a misdemeanor.

15 (10) Upon receiving reports of alleged abuse or neglect, the  
16 department or law enforcement agency may interview children. The  
17 interviews may be conducted on school premises, at day-care facilities,  
18 at the child's home, or at other suitable locations outside of the  
19 presence of parents. Parental notification of the interview must occur  
20 at the earliest possible point in the investigation that will not  
21 jeopardize the safety or protection of the child or the course of the  
22 investigation. Prior to commencing the interview the department or law  
23 enforcement agency shall determine whether the child wishes a third  
24 party to be present for the interview and, if so, shall make reasonable  
25 efforts to accommodate the child's wishes. Unless the child objects,  
26 the department or law enforcement agency shall make reasonable efforts  
27 to include a third party in any interview so long as the presence of  
28 the third party will not jeopardize the course of the investigation.

29 (11) Upon receiving a report of alleged child abuse and neglect,  
30 the department or investigating law enforcement agency shall have  
31 access to all relevant records of the child in the possession of  
32 mandated reporters and their employees.

33 (12) In investigating and responding to allegations of child abuse  
34 and neglect, the department may conduct background checks as authorized  
35 by state and federal law.

36 (13) If a report of alleged abuse or neglect is founded and  
37 constitutes the third founded report received by the department within  
38 the last twelve months involving the same child or family, the

1 department shall promptly notify the office of the family and  
2 children's ombudsman of the contents of the report. The department  
3 shall also notify the ombudsman of the disposition of the report.

4 (14) The department shall maintain investigation records and  
5 conduct timely and periodic reviews of all cases constituting abuse and  
6 neglect. The department shall maintain a log of screened-out  
7 nonabusive cases.

8 ~~((14))~~ (15) The department shall use a risk assessment process  
9 when investigating alleged child abuse and neglect referrals. The  
10 department shall present the risk factors at all hearings in which the  
11 placement of a dependent child is an issue. Substance abuse must be a  
12 risk factor. The department shall, within funds appropriated for this  
13 purpose, offer enhanced community-based services to persons who are  
14 determined not to require further state intervention.

15 ~~((15))~~ (16) Upon receipt of a report of alleged abuse or neglect  
16 the law enforcement agency may arrange to interview the person making  
17 the report and any collateral sources to determine if any malice is  
18 involved in the reporting.

19 ~~((16))~~ (17) The department shall make reasonable efforts to learn  
20 the name, address, and telephone number of each person making a report  
21 of abuse or neglect under this section. The department shall provide  
22 assurances of appropriate confidentiality of the identification of  
23 persons reporting under this section. If the department is unable to  
24 learn the information required under this subsection, the department  
25 shall only investigate cases in which: (a) The department believes  
26 there is a serious threat of substantial harm to the child; (b) the  
27 report indicates conduct involving a criminal offense that has, or is  
28 about to occur, in which the child is the victim; or (c) the department  
29 has, after investigation, a report of abuse or neglect that has been  
30 founded with regard to a member of the household within three years of  
31 receipt of the referral.

32 (18) Upon receiving a report of alleged abuse or neglect involving  
33 a child under the court's jurisdiction under chapter 13.34 RCW, the  
34 department shall promptly notify the child's guardian ad litem of the  
35 report's contents. The department shall also notify the guardian ad  
36 litem of the disposition of the report. For purposes of this  
37 subsection, "guardian ad litem" has the meaning provided in RCW  
38 13.34.030.

1       **Sec. 5.** RCW 26.44.030 and 2007 c 387 s 3 and 2007 c 220 s 2 are  
2 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

3       (1)(a) When any practitioner, county coroner or medical examiner,  
4 law enforcement officer, professional school personnel, registered or  
5 licensed nurse, social service counselor, psychologist, pharmacist,  
6 employee of the department of early learning, licensed or certified  
7 child care providers or their employees, employee of the department,  
8 juvenile probation officer, placement and liaison specialist,  
9 responsible living skills program staff, HOPE center staff, or state  
10 family and children's ombudsman or any volunteer in the ombudsman's  
11 office has reasonable cause to believe that a child has suffered abuse  
12 or neglect, he or she shall report such incident, or cause a report to  
13 be made, to the proper law enforcement agency or to the department as  
14 provided in RCW 26.44.040.

15       (b) When any person, in his or her official supervisory capacity  
16 with a nonprofit or for-profit organization, has reasonable cause to  
17 believe that a child has suffered abuse or neglect caused by a person  
18 over whom he or she regularly exercises supervisory authority, he or  
19 she shall report such incident, or cause a report to be made, to the  
20 proper law enforcement agency, provided that the person alleged to have  
21 caused the abuse or neglect is employed by, contracted by, or  
22 volunteers with the organization and coaches, trains, educates, or  
23 counsels a child or children or regularly has unsupervised access to a  
24 child or children as part of the employment, contract, or voluntary  
25 service. No one shall be required to report under this section when he  
26 or she obtains the information solely as a result of a privileged  
27 communication as provided in RCW 5.60.060.

28       Nothing in this subsection (1)(b) shall limit a person's duty to  
29 report under (a) of this subsection.

30       For the purposes of this subsection, the following definitions  
31 apply:

32       (i) "Official supervisory capacity" means a position, status, or  
33 role created, recognized, or designated by any nonprofit or for-profit  
34 organization, either for financial gain or without financial gain,  
35 whose scope includes, but is not limited to, overseeing, directing, or  
36 managing another person who is employed by, contracted by, or  
37 volunteers with the nonprofit or for-profit organization.



1 (ii) "Regularly exercises supervisory authority" means to act in  
2 his or her official supervisory capacity on an ongoing or continuing  
3 basis with regards to a particular person.

4 (c) The reporting requirement also applies to department of  
5 corrections personnel who, in the course of their employment, observe  
6 offenders or the children with whom the offenders are in contact. If,  
7 as a result of observations or information received in the course of  
8 his or her employment, any department of corrections personnel has  
9 reasonable cause to believe that a child has suffered abuse or neglect,  
10 he or she shall report the incident, or cause a report to be made, to  
11 the proper law enforcement agency or to the department as provided in  
12 RCW 26.44.040.

13 (d) The reporting requirement shall also apply to any adult who has  
14 reasonable cause to believe that a child who resides with them, has  
15 suffered severe abuse, and is able or capable of making a report. For  
16 the purposes of this subsection, "severe abuse" means any of the  
17 following: Any single act of abuse that causes physical trauma of  
18 sufficient severity that, if left untreated, could cause death; any  
19 single act of sexual abuse that causes significant bleeding, deep  
20 bruising, or significant external or internal swelling; or more than  
21 one act of physical abuse, each of which causes bleeding, deep  
22 bruising, significant external or internal swelling, bone fracture, or  
23 unconsciousness.

24 (e) The report must be made at the first opportunity, but in no  
25 case longer than forty-eight hours after there is reasonable cause to  
26 believe that the child has suffered abuse or neglect. The report must  
27 include the identity of the accused if known.

28 (2) The reporting requirement of subsection (1) of this section  
29 does not apply to the discovery of abuse or neglect that occurred  
30 during childhood if it is discovered after the child has become an  
31 adult. However, if there is reasonable cause to believe other children  
32 are or may be at risk of abuse or neglect by the accused, the reporting  
33 requirement of subsection (1) of this section does apply.

34 (3) Any other person who has reasonable cause to believe that a  
35 child has suffered abuse or neglect may report such incident to the  
36 proper law enforcement agency or to the department of social and health  
37 services as provided in RCW 26.44.040.

1 (4) The department, upon receiving a report of an incident of  
2 alleged abuse or neglect pursuant to this chapter, involving a child  
3 who has died or has had physical injury or injuries inflicted upon him  
4 or her other than by accidental means or who has been subjected to  
5 alleged sexual abuse, shall report such incident to the proper law  
6 enforcement agency. In emergency cases, where the child's welfare is  
7 endangered, the department shall notify the proper law enforcement  
8 agency within twenty-four hours after a report is received by the  
9 department. In all other cases, the department shall notify the law  
10 enforcement agency within seventy-two hours after a report is received  
11 by the department. If the department makes an oral report, a written  
12 report must also be made to the proper law enforcement agency within  
13 five days thereafter.

14 (5) Any law enforcement agency receiving a report of an incident of  
15 alleged abuse or neglect pursuant to this chapter, involving a child  
16 who has died or has had physical injury or injuries inflicted upon him  
17 or her other than by accidental means, or who has been subjected to  
18 alleged sexual abuse, shall report such incident in writing as provided  
19 in RCW 26.44.040 to the proper county prosecutor or city attorney for  
20 appropriate action whenever the law enforcement agency's investigation  
21 reveals that a crime may have been committed. The law enforcement  
22 agency shall also notify the department of all reports received and the  
23 law enforcement agency's disposition of them. In emergency cases,  
24 where the child's welfare is endangered, the law enforcement agency  
25 shall notify the department within twenty-four hours. In all other  
26 cases, the law enforcement agency shall notify the department within  
27 seventy-two hours after a report is received by the law enforcement  
28 agency.

29 (6) Any county prosecutor or city attorney receiving a report under  
30 subsection (5) of this section shall notify the victim, any persons the  
31 victim requests, and the local office of the department, of the  
32 decision to charge or decline to charge a crime, within five days of  
33 making the decision.

34 (7) The department may conduct ongoing case planning and  
35 consultation with those persons or agencies required to report under  
36 this section, with consultants designated by the department, and with  
37 designated representatives of Washington Indian tribes if the client  
38 information exchanged is pertinent to cases currently receiving child

1 protective services. Upon request, the department shall conduct such  
2 planning and consultation with those persons required to report under  
3 this section if the department determines it is in the best interests  
4 of the child. Information considered privileged by statute and not  
5 directly related to reports required by this section must not be  
6 divulged without a valid written waiver of the privilege.

7 (8) Any case referred to the department by a physician licensed  
8 under chapter 18.57 or 18.71 RCW on the basis of an expert medical  
9 opinion that child abuse, neglect, or sexual assault has occurred and  
10 that the child's safety will be seriously endangered if returned home,  
11 the department shall file a dependency petition unless a second  
12 licensed physician of the parents' choice believes that such expert  
13 medical opinion is incorrect. If the parents fail to designate a  
14 second physician, the department may make the selection. If a  
15 physician finds that a child has suffered abuse or neglect but that  
16 such abuse or neglect does not constitute imminent danger to the  
17 child's health or safety, and the department agrees with the  
18 physician's assessment, the child may be left in the parents' home  
19 while the department proceeds with reasonable efforts to remedy  
20 parenting deficiencies.

21 (9) Persons or agencies exchanging information under subsection (7)  
22 of this section shall not further disseminate or release the  
23 information except as authorized by state or federal statute.  
24 Violation of this subsection is a misdemeanor.

25 (10) Upon receiving a report of alleged abuse or neglect, the  
26 department shall make reasonable efforts to learn the name, address,  
27 and telephone number of each person making a report of abuse or neglect  
28 under this section. The department shall provide assurances of  
29 appropriate confidentiality of the identification of persons reporting  
30 under this section. If the department is unable to learn the  
31 information required under this subsection, the department shall only  
32 investigate cases in which:

33 (a) The department believes there is a serious threat of  
34 substantial harm to the child;

35 (b) The report indicates conduct involving a criminal offense that  
36 has, or is about to occur, in which the child is the victim; or

37 (c) The department has a prior founded report of abuse or neglect

1 with regard to a member of the household that is within three years of  
2 receipt of the referral.

3 (11)(a) For reports of alleged abuse or neglect that are accepted  
4 for investigation by the department, the investigation shall be  
5 conducted within time frames established by the department in rule. In  
6 no case shall the investigation extend longer than ninety days from the  
7 date the report is received, unless the investigation is being  
8 conducted under a written protocol pursuant to RCW 26.44.180 and a law  
9 enforcement agency or prosecuting attorney has determined that a longer  
10 investigation period is necessary. At the completion of the  
11 investigation, the department shall make a finding that the report of  
12 child abuse or neglect is founded or unfounded.

13 (b) If a court in a civil or criminal proceeding, considering the  
14 same facts or circumstances as are contained in the report being  
15 investigated by the department, makes a judicial finding by a  
16 preponderance of the evidence or higher that the subject of the pending  
17 investigation has abused or neglected the child, the department shall  
18 adopt the finding in its investigation.

19 (12) In conducting an investigation of alleged abuse or neglect,  
20 the department or law enforcement agency:

21 (a) May interview children. The interviews may be conducted on  
22 school premises, at day-care facilities, at the child's home, or at  
23 other suitable locations outside of the presence of parents. Parental  
24 notification of the interview must occur at the earliest possible point  
25 in the investigation that will not jeopardize the safety or protection  
26 of the child or the course of the investigation. Prior to commencing  
27 the interview the department or law enforcement agency shall determine  
28 whether the child wishes a third party to be present for the interview  
29 and, if so, shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate the child's  
30 wishes. Unless the child objects, the department or law enforcement  
31 agency shall make reasonable efforts to include a third party in any  
32 interview so long as the presence of the third party will not  
33 jeopardize the course of the investigation; and

34 (b) Shall have access to all relevant records of the child in the  
35 possession of mandated reporters and their employees.

36 (13) If a report of alleged abuse or neglect is founded and  
37 constitutes the third founded report received by the department within  
38 the last twelve months involving the same child or family, the

1 department shall promptly notify the office of the family and  
2 children's ombudsman of the contents of the report. The department  
3 shall also notify the ombudsman of the disposition of the report.

4 (14) In investigating and responding to allegations of child abuse  
5 and neglect, the department may conduct background checks as authorized  
6 by state and federal law.

7 ((+14+)) (15) The department shall maintain investigation records  
8 and conduct timely and periodic reviews of all founded cases of abuse  
9 and neglect. The department shall maintain a log of screened-out  
10 nonabusive cases.

11 ((+15+)) (16) The department shall use a risk assessment process  
12 when investigating alleged child abuse and neglect referrals. The  
13 department shall present the risk factors at all hearings in which the  
14 placement of a dependent child is an issue. Substance abuse must be a  
15 risk factor. The department shall, within funds appropriated for this  
16 purpose, offer enhanced community-based services to persons who are  
17 determined not to require further state intervention.

18 ((+16+)) (17) Upon receipt of a report of alleged abuse or neglect  
19 the law enforcement agency may arrange to interview the person making  
20 the report and any collateral sources to determine if any malice is  
21 involved in the reporting.

22 (18) Upon receiving a report of alleged abuse or neglect involving  
23 a child under the court's jurisdiction under chapter 13.34 RCW, the  
24 department shall promptly notify the child's guardian ad litem of the  
25 report's contents. The department shall also notify the guardian ad  
26 litem of the disposition of the report. For purposes of this  
27 subsection, "guardian ad litem" has the meaning provided in RCW  
28 13.34.030.

29 NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. A new section is added to chapter 43.06A RCW  
30 to read as follows:

31 The ombudsman shall analyze a random sampling of referrals made by  
32 mandated reporters during 2006 and 2007 and report to the appropriate  
33 committees of the legislature on the following: The number and types  
34 of referrals from mandated reporters; the disposition of the referrals  
35 by category of mandated reporters; how many referrals resulted in the  
36 filing of dependency actions; any patterns established by the  
37 department in how it dealt with such referrals; whether the history of

1 fatalities in 2006 and 2007 showed referrals by mandated reporters; and  
2 any other information the ombudsman deems relevant. The ombudsman may  
3 contract for all or a portion of the tasks essential to completing the  
4 analysis and report required under this section. The report is due no  
5 later than June 30, 2009.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Section 4 of this act expires October 1,  
7 2008.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Section 5 of this act takes effect October  
9 1, 2008.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** If specific funding for the purposes of this  
11 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by  
12 June 30, 2008, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and  
13 void."

14 Correct the title.

--- END ---