

HB 1624-S.E - DIGEST

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Provides that a child may petition the juvenile court to reinstate the previously terminated parental rights of his or her parent under the following circumstances: (1) The child was previously found to be a dependent child under chapter 13.34 RCW;

(2) The child's parent's rights were terminated in a proceeding under this chapter;

(3) The child has not achieved his or her permanency plan within three years of a final order of termination, or if the final order was appealed, within three years of exhaustion of any right to appeal the order terminating parental rights; and

(4) Absent good cause, the child must be at least twelve years old at the time the petition is filed.

Directs the secretary of the department of social and health services to work in conjunction with the University of Washington to study the need for and the feasibility of creating tiered classifications for foster parent licensing, including a professional foster parent classification.

Requires the secretary of the department of social and health services and the dean of the school of social work, or his or her designee, at the University of Washington to report the recommendations of the work group to the appropriate committees of the legislature by January 1, 2008.