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**Early Learning & Human Services  
Committee**

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**HB 1629**

**Brief Description:** Concerning applied behavior analyst services.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Kagi, Hinkle, Cody and Walsh.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Permits the Department of Social and Health Services to provide applied behavior analysis services to persons receiving services through the Division of Developmental Disabilities.

**Hearing Date:** 2/8/11

**Staff:** Linda Merelle (786-7092).

**Background:**

The Division of Developmental Disabilities offers several programs and services for children with developmental disabilities and their families. The Secretary of the Department of Social and Health Services may provide or arrange with others to provide services including, case management, early childhood intervention, employment, family counseling, family support, respite care, therapy, transportation, and others.

Applied Behavior Analysis.

Applied behavior analysis is a treatment for children with developmental disabilities or delays, including autism. It is the process of systematically applying interventions to improve social behaviors such as reading, academics, social skills, communication, and adaptive living skills.

**Summary of Bill:**

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

Applied behavior analysis services are added to the list of services that the Department of Social and Health Services may provide to persons receiving services through the Division of Developmental Disabilities. The services may be provided by a state or nationally certified behavior analyst, a licensed mental health counselor, or a licensed psychologist.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.