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HOUSE BILL 2244

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State of Washington                      65th Legislature                      2017 3rd Special Session

By Representatives Shea and Haler

Read first time 07/03/17. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1            AN ACT Relating to fundamental parental rights; and adding a new  
2 chapter to Title 26 RCW.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    (1) Parents and legal guardians who have  
5 legal custody of minor children have a fundamental right to make  
6 decisions concerning the care, custody, education, and control of  
7 their children.

8            (2) The legislature hereby codifies these fundamental rights.  
9 Parents and legal guardians shall retain the fundamental rights  
10 listed in this section regardless of whether they continue to be  
11 recognized or articulated as constitutional rights by federal or  
12 state courts.

13            (3) This section's codification of parents' and legal guardians'  
14 fundamental rights as now recognized by law shall not be construed to  
15 limit any parent or guardian from exercising additional rights under  
16 the Constitution and laws of the United States or of Washington.

17            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    Section 1 of this act constitutes a new  
18 chapter in Title 26 RCW.

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