

ESSB 5811 - H AMD TO ELCS COMM AMD (H-2974.4/09) 552
By Representative Kagi

ADOPTED 04/13/2009

1 On page 23, after line 33 of the amendment, insert the following:

2 "Sec. 10. RCW 74.13.109 and 1990 c 285 s 7 are each amended to
3 read as follows:

4 (1) The secretary shall issue rules and regulations to assist in
5 the administration of the program of adoption support authorized by RCW
6 26.33.320 and 74.13.100 through 74.13.145.

7 (2) Disbursements from the appropriations available from the
8 general fund shall be made pursuant to such rules and regulations and
9 pursuant to agreements conforming thereto to be made by the secretary
10 with parents for the purpose of supporting the adoption of children in,
11 or likely to be placed in, foster homes or child caring institutions
12 who are found by the secretary to be difficult to place in adoption
13 because of physical or other reasons; including, but not limited to,
14 physical or mental handicap, emotional disturbance, ethnic background,
15 language, race, color, age, or sibling grouping.

16 (3) Such agreements shall meet the following criteria:

17 ((+1)) (a) The child whose adoption is to be supported pursuant to
18 such agreement shall be or have been a child hard to place in adoption.

19 ((+2)) (b) Such agreement must relate to a child who was or is
20 residing in a foster home or child-caring institution or a child who,
21 in the judgment of the secretary, is both eligible for, and likely to
22 be placed in, either a foster home or a child-caring institution.

23 ((+3)) (c) Such agreement shall provide that adoption support
24 shall not continue beyond the time that the adopted child reaches
25 eighteen years of age, becomes emancipated, dies, or otherwise ceases
26 to need support, provided that if the secretary shall find that
27 continuing dependency of such child after such child reaches eighteen
28 years of age warrants the continuation of support pursuant to RCW
29 26.33.320 and 74.13.100 through 74.13.145 the secretary may do so,

1 subject to all the provisions of RCW 26.33.320 and 74.13.100 through
2 74.13.145, including annual review of the amount of such support.

3 ~~((4))~~ (d) Any prospective parent who is to be a party to such
4 agreement shall be a person who has the character, judgment, sense of
5 responsibility, and disposition which make him or her suitable as an
6 adoptive parent of such child.

7 (4) At least six months before an adoption is finalized under
8 chapter 26.33 RCW and RCW 74.13.100 through 74.13.145, the department
9 must provide to a prospective adoptive parent written information
10 describing the limits of the adoption support program, including the
11 following information:

12 (a) The limits on monthly cash payments to adoptive families;

13 (b) The limits on the availability of children's mental health
14 services and the funds with which to pay for these services;

15 (c) The process for accessing mental health services for children
16 receiving adoption support services;

17 (d) The limits on the one-time cash payments to adoptive families
18 for expenses related to their adopted children; and

19 (e) That payment for residential or group care is not available
20 under the adoption support program."

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