

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 2442

As Reported By House Committee On:

Law & Justice

Title: An act relating to protecting and promoting the rights of parents.

Brief Description: Adopting the restoration of parents' rights and responsibilities act.

Sponsors: Representatives Mulliken, Sheahan, Sterk, Pelesky, McMahan, McMorris, Thompson, Smith, Honeyford, Goldsmith, Beeksma, Pennington, Sherstad, Koster, Hargrove, D. Sommers, D. Schmidt, Campbell, Benton, Johnson, Fuhrman, Stevens, Boldt and Backlund.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Law & Justice: 1/23/96, 1/31/96 [DPS].

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LAW & JUSTICE

Majority Report: The substitute bill be substituted therefor and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by 10 members: Representatives Sheahan, Chairman; Delvin, Vice Chairman; Hickel, Vice Chairman; Campbell; Carrell; Lambert; McMahan; Robertson; Smith and Sterk.

Minority Report: Do not pass. Signed by 7 members: Representatives Dellwo, Ranking Minority Member; Costa, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Chappell; Cody; Morris; Murray and Veloria.

Staff: Pat Shelledy (786-7149).

Background:

Minors' Access to Drug and Alcohol Treatment

A minor who is 13 years of age or older may consent to outpatient drug and alcohol treatment without first obtaining parental permission. Minors may receive inpatient treatment by consent of the parent for emergency detoxification or involuntarily under a commitment statute. There is not a specific provision that requires that parents be notified if their children obtain outpatient or inpatient treatment.

Minors' Access to Mental Health Treatment

A minor 13 years of age or older may obtain outpatient mental health treatment without parental permission. Parental authorization is required for a minor under age 13. There is not a specific provision that requires that parents be notified if their children obtain outpatient treatment. There is a provision that requires parents be notified if their children obtain inpatient treatment without parental consent.

Notice to Parents of Whereabouts of a Runway

Any person who, without legal authorization, provides shelter to a minor and who knows when providing that shelter that the minor is away from home without parental permission, must report the child's location to the parent, local law enforcement, or the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) within eight hours after the person knows the child is away from home without parental permission. The report may be made by telephone.

Notice to Parents of Suspension or Revocation of a Juvenile's Driver's License

The Department of Licensing may or must suspend or revoke a minor's license for various reasons. The department does not have to notify a parent about the suspension or revocation. The department is authorized to furnish to parents the child's driving record if the child is unemancipated.

Notice to Parents of Their Child's Arrest, Detention, or Penalty for Committing an Offense

When a juvenile is arrested and detained, the juvenile is entitled to a detention hearing. If the parents are available, the court must consult with the parents regarding continuing to detain the juvenile.

If the prosecutor files a charge against the juvenile, the court clerk must issue a summons to the juvenile and the parents commanding them to appear at the next hearing.

Parental Review and Consent to Teaching Materials and Topics/Retention and Review of Records

Parents may have access to their child's classroom and school sponsored activities to observe class procedure, teaching material, and class conduct, provided the parent does not disturb the classroom procedure or learning activity.

Various statutes direct or allow schools to provide specific materials and information to students on certain topics. Those topics include