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HOUSE BILL 1174

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Representatives Cooke and Brown; by request of Department of Social and Health Services

Read first time 01/16/95. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to the children's services advisory committee; and  
2 amending RCW 74.13.031.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.13.031 and 1990 c 146 s 9 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 The department shall have the duty to provide child welfare  
7 services as defined in RCW 74.13.020, and shall:

8 (1) Develop, administer, supervise, and monitor a coordinated and  
9 comprehensive plan that establishes, aids, and strengthens services for  
10 the protection and care of homeless, runaway, dependent, or neglected  
11 children.

12 (2) Develop a recruiting plan for recruiting an adequate number of  
13 prospective adoptive and foster homes, both regular and specialized,  
14 i.e. homes for children of ethnic minority, including Indian homes for  
15 Indian children, sibling groups, handicapped and emotionally disturbed,  
16 and annually submit the plan for review to the house and senate  
17 committees on social and health services. The plan shall include a  
18 section entitled "Foster Home Turn-Over, Causes and Recommendations."

1 (3) Investigate complaints of neglect, abuse, or abandonment of  
2 children, and on the basis of the findings of such investigation, offer  
3 child welfare services in relation to the problem to such parents,  
4 legal custodians, or persons serving in loco parentis, and/or bring the  
5 situation to the attention of an appropriate court, or another  
6 community agency: PROVIDED, That an investigation is not required of  
7 nonaccidental injuries which are clearly not the result of a lack of  
8 care or supervision by the child's parents, legal custodians, or  
9 persons serving in loco parentis. If the investigation reveals that a  
10 crime may have been committed, the department shall notify the  
11 appropriate law enforcement agency.

12 (4) Offer, on a voluntary basis, family reconciliation services to  
13 families who are in conflict.

14 (5) Monitor out-of-home placements, on a timely and routine basis,  
15 to assure the safety, well-being, and quality of care being provided is  
16 within the scope of the intent of the legislature as defined in RCW  
17 74.13.010 and 74.15.010, and annually submit a report delineating the  
18 results to the house and senate committees on social and health  
19 services.

20 (6) Have authority to accept custody of children from parents and  
21 to accept custody of children from juvenile courts, where authorized to  
22 do so under law, to provide child welfare services including placement  
23 for adoption, and to provide for the physical care of such children and  
24 make payment of maintenance costs if needed. Except where required by  
25 Public Law 95-608 (25 U.S.C. Sec. 1915), no private adoption agency  
26 which receives children for adoption from the department shall  
27 discriminate on the basis of race, creed, or color when considering  
28 applications in their placement for adoption.

29 (7) Have authority to provide temporary shelter to children who  
30 have run away from home and who are admitted to crisis residential  
31 centers.

32 (8) Have authority to purchase care for children; and shall follow  
33 in general the policy of using properly approved private agency  
34 services for the actual care and supervision of such children insofar  
35 as they are available, paying for care of such children as are accepted  
36 by the department as eligible for support at reasonable rates  
37 established by the department.

38 (9) Establish a children's services advisory committee which shall  
39 assist the secretary in the development of a partnership plan for

1 utilizing resources of the public and private sectors, and advise on  
2 all matters pertaining to child welfare, (~~day care,~~) licensing of  
3 child care agencies, adoption, and services related thereto. (~~At  
4 least one third of the membership shall be composed of child care  
5 providers, and at least one member shall represent the adoption  
6 community.~~)

7 (10) Have authority to provide continued foster care or group care  
8 for individuals from eighteen through twenty years of age to enable  
9 them to complete their high school or vocational school program.

10 (11) Have authority within funds appropriated for foster care  
11 services to purchase care for Indian children who are in the custody of  
12 a federally recognized Indian tribe or tribally licensed child-placing  
13 agency pursuant to parental consent, tribal court order, or state  
14 juvenile court order; and the purchase of such care shall be subject to  
15 the same eligibility standards and rates of support applicable to other  
16 children for whom the department purchases care.

17 Notwithstanding any other provision of RCW 13.32A.170 through  
18 13.32A.200 and 74.13.032 through 74.13.036, or of this section all  
19 services to be provided by the department of social and health services  
20 under subsections (4), (6), and (7) of this section, subject to the  
21 limitations of these subsections, may be provided by any program  
22 offering such services funded pursuant to Titles II and III of the  
23 federal juvenile justice and delinquency prevention act of 1974.

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