
HOUSE BILL 1666

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Representatives McDonald, Kagi, Boldt, Tokuda, Dickerson, Clements, Santos and Mitchell

Read first time 02/02/1999. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to foster parents; creating new sections; making an
2 appropriation; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that Washington
5 state is experiencing a significant shortage of quality foster homes
6 and that the majority of children entering the system are difficult to
7 place due to their complex needs. The legislature intends to provide
8 additional assistance to those families willing to serve as foster
9 parents.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The United States department of agriculture
11 issued a report that shows the current foster parent reimbursement rate
12 of four hundred nine dollars per month per child represents forty-three
13 percent of the actual cost of providing such care. The department of
14 social and health services shall increase the basic reimbursement rate
15 for foster children by three dollars per child per day. The department
16 shall also annually review how the basic foster care rates meet the
17 need for providing such care.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The sum of fifteen million three hundred
2 thirty thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is
3 appropriated from the general fund to the department of social and
4 health services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000, to carry out
5 the purposes of section 2 of this act.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate
7 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
8 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
9 July 1, 1999.

--- END ---