

SB 5381-S - DIGEST

(SEE ALSO PROPOSED 2ND SUB)

Requires that, in any case in which the court orders that a dependent child may be returned home and that child is later removed from the home, the court shall hold a review hearing within thirty days from the date of removal to determine whether the permanency plan should be changed, a termination petition should be filed, or other action is warranted. The best interests of the child shall be the court's primary consideration in the review hearing.

Requires each county to revise and expand its existing child sexual abuse investigation protocol to address investigations of child fatality, child physical abuse, and criminal child neglect cases and to incorporate the statewide guidelines for first responders to child fatalities developed by the criminal justice training commission. The protocols shall address the coordination of child fatality, child physical abuse, and criminal child neglect investigations between the county and city prosecutor's offices, law enforcement, children's protective services, local advocacy groups, emergency medical services, and any other local agency involved in the investigation of such cases. The protocol revision and expansion shall be developed by the prosecuting attorney in collaboration with the agencies referenced in this act.

Requires revised and expanded protocols under this act to be adopted and in place by July 1, 2008. Thereafter, the protocols shall be reviewed every two years to determine whether modifications are needed.

Directs the commission, in consultation with the department of social and health services, the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs, and the Washington association of prosecuting attorneys, to develop a curriculum related to child abuse and neglect to be included in the basic law enforcement training that must be successfully completed within the first fifteen months of employment of all law enforcement personnel.

Requires the curriculum to be incorporated into the basic law enforcement training program by July 1, 2008.

Requires the joint legislative audit and review committee to analyze gaps throughout the state in the availability and accessibility of services identified in the federal adoption and safe families act as it existed on the effective date of this act.

Requires the joint legislative audit and review committee to submit to appropriate committees of the legislature a report and recommendations by December 1, 2007.