

HB 1961 - DIGEST

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 2ND SUB)

Declares an intent to: (1) Clarify existing authority for foster care services beyond age eighteen and to establish authority for future expansion of housing and other supports for youth aging out of foster care and youth who achieved permanency in later adolescence; and

(2) Make relative guardianships, as permitted under federal law, available to Washington families through amending the state's dependency guardianship statute and through certain implementation directives for a relative guardianship program.

Authorizes a youth who remains eligible for placement services or benefits pursuant to department of social and health services' rules to continue to receive placement services and benefits until the youth reaches his or her twenty-first birthday.