

SSB 6239 - S AMD 17

By Senators Benton, Zarelli

NOT ADOPTED 02/01/2012

1 On page 8, after line 26, insert the following:

2 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** A new section is added to chapter 74.15  
3 RCW to read as follows:

4 (1) No religious organization or organization affiliated,  
5 controlled, or managed by a religious organization may be required to  
6 place children or arrange for the placement of children for adoption by  
7 same sex couples or individuals in same sex relationships.

8 (2) No court, state agency, or local government may base a decision  
9 to penalize, deny a license or renewal of license, withhold benefits  
10 from, or refuse to contract with any religious organization or  
11 organization affiliated, controlled, or managed by a religious  
12 organization, on the refusal of the organization to place children or  
13 arrange for the placement of children for adoption by same sex couples  
14 or individuals in same sex relationships.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 16.** A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW  
16 to read as follows:

17 (1) No religious organization or organization affiliated,  
18 controlled, or managed by a religious organization may be required to  
19 place children or arrange for the placement of children with same sex  
20 couples or individuals in same sex relationships.

21 (2) No court, state agency, or local government may base a decision  
22 to penalize, deny a license or renewal of license, withhold benefits  
23 from, or refuse to contract with any religious organization or  
24 organization affiliated, controlled, or managed by a religious  
25 organization, on the refusal of the organization to place children or  
26 arrange for the placement of children with same sex couples or  
27 individuals in same sex relationships."

1           Renumber the remaining section consecutively and correct any  
2 internal references accordingly.

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3           On page 1, line 6 of the title, after "26.60 RCW;" insert "adding  
4 a new section to chapter 74.15 RCW; adding a new section to chapter  
5 74.13 RCW;"

EFFECT: Provides that religious-based child placement agencies may not be required to place or arrange for the placement of children with same sex couples or individuals in same sex relationships. Protects religious-based child placement agencies from adverse action of governmental entities that are based on the agency's decision not to place children with same sex couples or persons in same sex relationships.

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