

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5431

61st Legislature
2009 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate April 25, 2009
YEAS 48 NAYS 0

President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 23, 2009
YEAS 95 NAYS 0

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5431** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

Secretary

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5431

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2009 Regular Session

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2009 Regular Session

By Senate Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senators Stevens, Hargrove, Regala, McAuliffe, Carrell, Brandland, and King)

READ FIRST TIME 02/23/09.

1 AN ACT Relating to subsequent foster family home placements;
2 amending RCW 74.13.290; and adding a new section to chapter 13.34 RCW.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.13.290 and 1990 c 284 s 11 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) To provide stability to children in out-of-home care, placement
7 selection shall be made with a view toward the fewest possible
8 placements for each child. If possible, the initial placement shall be
9 viewed as the only placement for the child. Pursuant to RCW 13.34.060
10 and 13.34.130, placement of the child with a relative or other suitable
11 person is the preferred option. The use of short-term interim
12 placements of thirty days or less to protect the child's health or
13 safety while the placement of choice is being arranged is not a
14 violation of this principle.

15 (2) If a child has been previously placed in out-of-home care and
16 is subsequently returned to out-of-home care, and the department cannot
17 locate an appropriate and available relative or other suitable person,
18 the preferred placement for the child is in a foster family home where
19 the child previously was placed, if the following conditions are met:

- 1 (a) The foster family home is available and willing to care for the
2 child;
3 (b) The foster family is appropriate and able to meet the child's
4 needs; and
5 (c) The placement is in the best interest of the child.

6 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 13.34 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 If a child has been previously placed in out-of-home care and is
9 subsequently returned to out-of-home care, and the department cannot
10 locate an appropriate and available relative or other suitable person,
11 the preferred placement for the child is in a foster family home where
12 the child previously was placed, if the following conditions are met:

- 13 (1) The foster family home is available and willing to care for the
14 child;
15 (2) The foster family is appropriate and able to meet the child's
16 needs; and
17 (3) The placement is in the best interest of the child.

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