

E2SHB 2536 - S COMM AMD
By Committee on Ways & Means

ADOPTED 03/01/2012

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature recognizes that the use
4 of evidence-based practices plays a very important role in the delivery
5 of services to children and juveniles. Especially in times of
6 diminished resources, it is critical to fund practices which are known
7 to provide desired outcomes rather than continue to expend moneys on
8 programs that may be familiar but less effective.

9 (2) Evidence-based practices or programs are those that are
10 cost-effective and include at least two randomized or statistically
11 controlled evaluations demonstrating that the program or practice is
12 effective in obtaining improved outcomes for its intended population.

13 (3) The legislature intends that prevention and intervention
14 services delivered to children and juveniles in the areas of mental
15 health, child welfare, and juvenile justice must be primarily
16 evidence-based, and it is anticipated that such services will be
17 provided in a manner that is culturally competent.

18 (4) The legislature also acknowledges that baseline information is
19 not presently available regarding the extent to which evidence-based
20 practices are presently available and in use in the areas of mental
21 health, child welfare, and juvenile justice; the cost of those
22 practices; their effectiveness relative to other standard treatment
23 protocols upon which statistically controlled evaluations have not been
24 completed; and the most effective strategies and appropriate time
25 frames for expecting their broader use. Thus, it would be unwise to
26 establish specific requirements and time frames for widespread
27 implementation without further analysis and discussion.

28 (5) It is the intent of the legislature that the department of
29 social and health services will ensure that an expansion of the use of
30 evidence-based practices be accomplished to the extent possible with

1 existing resources by coordinating the purchase of evidence-based
2 services, the development of a trained workforce and the implementation
3 of a system of care that supports evidence-based practices by the
4 juvenile rehabilitation administration, the division of behavioral
5 health and recovery services, and the children's administration.

6 (6) The legislature recognizes that in order to effectively provide
7 evidence-based practices, contractors must have a workforce trained in
8 these programs, and there must be an evaluation of the outcomes from
9 their use. For purposes of this act, "contractors" does not include
10 county probation staff that provide evidence-based programs.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The department of social and health services
12 shall accomplish the following in consultation and collaboration with
13 the Washington state institute for public policy, the evidence-based
14 practice institute at the University of Washington, a university-based
15 child welfare partnership and research entity, other national experts
16 in the delivery of evidence-based services, and organizations
17 representing Washington practitioners in each of the service areas:

18 (1) By September 30, 2012, the department shall publish descriptive
19 definitions of evidence-based and research-based practices in the areas
20 of child welfare, juvenile rehabilitation, and children's mental health
21 services.

22 (2) By June 30, 2013, the department shall complete a baseline
23 assessment of the extent to which evidence-based and research-based
24 practices are in place in the state in the areas of child welfare,
25 juvenile rehabilitation, and children's mental health services. The
26 assessment shall include estimates of (a) the number of children
27 receiving each service; (b) the total amount of state and federal funds
28 expended on the service; (c) the relative availability of the service
29 in the various regions of the state; and (d) the number of children
30 served by state programs who would significantly benefit from but who
31 do not presently have access to the service.

32 (3) By December 1, 2013, the department shall report to the
33 governor and to the appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the
34 legislature on recommended strategies, timelines, and costs for
35 increasing availability of evidence-based and research-based practices
36 in each of the identified areas."

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1 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "juveniles;" strike the
2 remainder of the title and insert "and creating new sections."

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