

EHB 2008 - S COMM AMD  
By Committee on Ways & Means

ADOPTED 02/28/2018

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that effective  
4 planning for and implementation of core state services for children  
5 requires predictability and stability in the budgeting process for  
6 these services. For these reasons, the legislature intends that costs  
7 for behavioral rehabilitation services be included in the state  
8 budgeting process at maintenance level. By implementing consistent  
9 statewide assessments, forecasting program caseloads, and  
10 incorporating forecast-based program costs into the maintenance level  
11 budget, the state can ensure predictable funding levels for this  
12 program.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The children and families services  
14 program of the department of social and health services through June  
15 30, 2018, and of the department of children, youth, and families  
16 effective July 1, 2018, shall facilitate a stakeholder work group in  
17 a collaborative effort to design a behavioral rehabilitation services  
18 rate payment methodology that is based on actual provider costs of  
19 care. The work group may consider the findings of a contracted rate  
20 analysis in designing the methodology. By November 30, 2018, and in  
21 compliance with RCW 43.01.036, the department of children, youth, and  
22 families must submit a report with the final work group findings to  
23 the appropriate legislative committees.

24 (2) This section expires December 31, 2018.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 74.13  
26 RCW to read as follows:

27 The office of innovation, alignment, and accountability must  
28 develop a single validated tool to assess the care needs of foster  
29 children. Once the validated tool is available for use on a statewide  
30 basis, the department of children, youth, and families must use the

1 tool for assessing the care needs of foster children, including but  
2 not limited to whether the department should provide foster children  
3 with behavioral rehabilitation services. The department must notify  
4 the caseload forecast council, the office of financial management,  
5 and the appropriate fiscal committees of the legislature when it  
6 begins statewide use of the validated tool.

7 **Sec. 4.** RCW 43.88C.010 and 2015 c 128 s 2 are each amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 (1) The caseload forecast council is hereby created. The council  
10 shall consist of two individuals appointed by the governor and four  
11 individuals, one of whom is appointed by the chairperson of each of  
12 the two largest political caucuses in the senate and house of  
13 representatives. The chair of the council shall be selected from  
14 among the four caucus appointees. The council may select such other  
15 officers as the members deem necessary.

16 (2) The council shall employ a caseload forecast supervisor to  
17 supervise the preparation of all caseload forecasts. As used in this  
18 chapter, "supervisor" means the caseload forecast supervisor.

19 (3) Approval by an affirmative vote of at least five members of  
20 the council is required for any decisions regarding employment of the  
21 supervisor. Employment of the supervisor shall terminate after each  
22 term of three years. At the end of the first year of each three-year  
23 term the council shall consider extension of the supervisor's term by  
24 one year. The council may fix the compensation of the supervisor. The  
25 supervisor shall employ staff sufficient to accomplish the purposes  
26 of this section.

27 (4) The caseload forecast council shall oversee the preparation  
28 of and approve, by an affirmative vote of at least four members, the  
29 official state caseload forecasts prepared under RCW 43.88C.020. If  
30 the council is unable to approve a forecast before a date required in  
31 RCW 43.88C.020, the supervisor shall submit the forecast without  
32 approval and the forecast shall have the same effect as if approved  
33 by the council.

34 (5) A councilmember who does not cast an affirmative vote for  
35 approval of the official caseload forecast may request, and the  
36 supervisor shall provide, an alternative forecast based on  
37 assumptions specified by the member.

38 (6) Members of the caseload forecast council shall serve without  
39 additional compensation but shall be reimbursed for travel expenses

1 in accordance with RCW 44.04.120 while attending sessions of the  
2 council or on official business authorized by the council.  
3 Nonlegislative members of the council shall be reimbursed for travel  
4 expenses in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

5 (7) "Caseload," as used in this chapter, means:

6 (a) The number of persons expected to meet entitlement  
7 requirements and require the services of public assistance programs,  
8 state correctional institutions, state correctional noninstitutional  
9 supervision, state institutions for juvenile offenders, the common  
10 school system, long-term care, medical assistance, foster care, and  
11 adoption support;

12 (b) The number of students who are eligible for the Washington  
13 college bound scholarship program and are expected to attend an  
14 institution of higher education as defined in RCW 28B.92.030;

15 (c) The number of children who are eligible, as defined in RCW  
16 (~~43.215.405~~) 43.216.505, to participate in, and the number of  
17 children actually served by, the early childhood education and  
18 assistance program.

19 (8) The caseload forecast council shall forecast the temporary  
20 assistance for needy families and the working connections child care  
21 programs as a courtesy.

22 (9) The caseload forecast council shall forecast youth  
23 participating in the extended foster care program pursuant to RCW  
24 74.13.031 separately from other children who are residing in foster  
25 care and who are under eighteen years of age.

26 (10) The caseload forecast council shall forecast the number of  
27 youth expected to receive behavioral rehabilitation services while  
28 involved in the foster care system and the number of screened in  
29 reports of child abuse or neglect.

30 (11) Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the  
31 definitions provided in RCW 43.88.020 apply to this chapter.

32 NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 43.88  
33 RCW to read as follows:

34 For the purposes of this chapter, expenditures for behavioral  
35 rehabilitation services placements must be forecasted and budgeted as  
36 maintenance level costs.

37 NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. (1) The department of children, youth, and  
38 families shall, as part of its budget request submittal for the

1 2019-2021 biennial operating budget, conduct of a review of the most  
2 recent caseload forecast of children in foster care and the  
3 availability and capacity of licensed foster homes. The review shall  
4 include:

- 5 (a) An analysis of the need for licensed foster homes;  
6 (b) A listing of support resources available for parents in  
7 licensed foster homes; and  
8 (c) A review of department policies that affect the recruitment  
9 and retention of licensed foster homes.

10 A report containing the results of the review shall be submitted  
11 to the office of financial management and appropriated committees of  
12 the legislature no later than October 1, 2018.

13 (2) This section expires October 1, 2018."

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14 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "children;" strike the  
15 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 43.88C.010; adding a  
16 new section to chapter 74.13 RCW; adding a new section to chapter  
17 43.88 RCW; creating new sections; and providing expiration dates."

**EFFECT:** (1) Requires the Department of Children, Youth, and  
Families (DCYF) to facilitate a work group to design a rate payment  
methodology for behavioral rehabilitation services (BRS) that is  
based on actual costs of care. The work group must report their  
findings to the Legislature by November 1, 2018.

(2) Requires the Office of Innovation, Alignment, and  
Accountability to develop a single validated tool for the DCYF to use  
to assess the care needs of foster children, including whether BRS  
should be provided.

(3) Requires the Caseload Forecast Council (CFC) to forecast the  
number of youth expected to receive BRS and the number of screened in  
reports of abuse or neglect.

(4) Requires expenditures for BRS to be forecasted and budgeted  
as maintenance level costs.

(5) Requires the DCYF to review the availability and capacity of  
licensed foster homes in comparison to the foster care caseload and  
submit the review as part of the 2019-2021 budget submittal.

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