SHB 2442 - H AMD TO H AMD (2442-S AMD MULL H5153.2)

By Representative Mastin and Mulliken

On page 1, line 10, after "Sec. 1.", strike all material down to "act." on line 4, page 2, and insert the following:

"The legislature finds there has been a gradual encroachment by the state into the fundamental rights of parents to exercise legitimate care, responsibility, and guidance over the upbringing of their children. The Legislature also finds that government's inability to adequately support reasonable attempts by parents to guide, discipline, and prepare their children for a productive, fulfilling life, is both a result and cause of the breakdown in the family unit and harmful to society.

The result is a breakdown in the traditional role of the family as the primary provider, protector, and promoter of the health, safety, and well-being of children and of the basic values and character traits essential for attaining individual liberty, fulfillment, and happiness.

This act is intended to ensure parents can rightfully guide and direct the affairs of their minor or dependent children. This act is also intended to ensure government appropriately respects and reinforces those rights, and to ensure parents meet the responsibilities inherent in bearing and raising young children. The legislature recognizes that upholding the rights of parents is in the best interest of the families and minor children of Washington state.

This act is also intended to assist parents in furthering the following important values: (1) Honesty, integrity, and trust; (2) respect for self and others; (3) responsibility for personal actions and commitments; (4) self-discipline and moderation; (5) diligence and a positive work ethic; (6) respect for law and authority; (7) healthy and constructive behavior; and (8) family as the basis of society.

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Neither the state of Washington, nor its political subdivisions, should by any means, enact or enforce any policy that supersedes or infringes upon the abilities and the rights of parents as recognized and protected by this act."

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7 EFFECT: Revises the intent language.

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