S-1663.1			

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5462

State of Washington 56th Legislature 1999 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senators Hargrove, Wojahn, Deccio, Loveland, Winsley, Snyder, Spanel, Oke, McAuliffe, Gardner, Bauer and Patterson; by request of Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development and Department of Social and Health Services)

Read first time 02/19/1999.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to the provision of services to the homeless; and
- 2 creating a new section.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that homelessness is
- 5 a significant problem in Washington. Planning for and serving the
- 6 shelter and housing needs of the homeless has been and continues to be
- 7 a responsibility of the department of community, trade, and economic
- 8 development. In order to adequately and effectively address the
- 9 complex issues confronting homeless families with children, planning
- 10 for and evaluating such services must be a collaborative effort between
- 11 the department of community, trade, and economic development, the
- 12 department of social and health services, other local, state, and
- 13 federal government agencies, and community organizations. It is the
- 14 intent of the legislature that children should not be placed in the
- 15 foster care system if homelessness is the primary reason for placement
- 16 or the continuation of their placement.

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