

1124-S

Sponsor(s): House Committee on Children & Family Services (originally sponsored by Representatives Darneille, Morell, Tokuda, Campbell, Hunt, Kagi, Miloscia, Ballasiotes, Veloria, Linville, Dickerson, Edwards, Kenney, O'Brien, Keiser, Edmonds, Schual-Berke, Jackley, Lovick, Santos, McIntire and Haigh)

Brief Description: Evaluating mental health programs for children.

**HB 1124-S - DIGEST**

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Finds that reduction of risk, prevention of onset, and early intervention in childhood are important strategies to promote healthy development since many adult mental disorders begin in childhood.

Finds that mental health is linked to general health and classroom performance, and to avoiding involvement with the juvenile justice system. Untreated mental illness results in more severe symptoms for the individual and more costs to society's human services and law enforcement systems.

Declares an intent that the children's mental health service delivery system in Washington state be operated in an effective and efficient manner with measurable outcomes and that to the degree possible all children in need of mental health services will have access to quality, professional services in a timely manner.

Directs the joint legislative audit and review committee to conduct a comprehensive review of the provisions of this act. The review shall be submitted to the appropriate committees of the legislature by July 1, 2002.