

6171

Sponsor(s): Senators Benton, Kohl-Welles, Carlson, Stevens, Johnson, Esser, T. Sheldon and Pflug

Brief Description: Regarding investigations of complaints against school employees. Revised for 1st Substitute: Regarding misconduct investigations conducted by the superintendent of public instruction.

**SB 6171 - DIGEST**

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 1ST SUB)

Authorizes the superintendent of public instruction to initiate and conduct investigations of any complaint against a school employee as may be reasonably necessary to establish a violation of any rules, regulations, or personnel policies established by that employee's school district.

Provides that investigations conducted by the superintendent of public instruction concerning alleged sexual misconduct towards a child shall be completed within one year of the initiation of the investigation.

Declares that the sole remedy for a failure to complete an investigation of sexual misconduct within one year or within the time consented to by each of the contacted parties is a civil penalty of fifty dollars per day for each day beyond the allowed time.

Provides that, if any person fails to obey a subpoena or obeys a subpoena but refuses to give evidence, any court of competent jurisdiction, upon application by the superintendent, may issue to that person an order requiring him or her to appear before the court and to show cause why he or she should not be compelled to obey the subpoena and give evidence material to the matter under investigation. The failure to obey an order of the court may be punishable as contempt.