

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5872

59th Legislature
2005 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate April 18, 2005
YEAS 45 NAYS 0

President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 7, 2005
YEAS 96 NAYS 0

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5872** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

Secretary

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5872

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2005 Regular Session

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senators Stevens, Carrell, Mulliken, Deccio, Finkbeiner, Delvin, Benson, Johnson, Oke, Hewitt and Schmidt)

READ FIRST TIME 02/28/05.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating the joint task force on the
2 administration and delivery of services to children and families; and
3 creating new sections.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A joint task force is created to determine
6 the most appropriate and effective administrative structure for
7 delivery of social and health services to the children and families of
8 the state. The joint task force shall study how best to ensure that an
9 administrative structure has defined lines of responsibility for
10 delivering services to children and families in need and the best means
11 for the public to hold government accountable for delivery of those
12 services. The joint task force shall compare the effectiveness of:
13 Including social and health services to children and families within an
14 umbrella agency, such as the current department of social and health
15 services; establishing a separate agency for social and health services
16 to children and families whose administrator reports directly to the
17 governor; or creating a children and family services cabinet reporting
18 directly to the governor. The joint task force shall, as part of the

1 comparison, examine the administrative structures used in other states
2 to deliver social and health services to children and families.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) Membership of the joint task force shall
4 consist of the following:

5 (a) The dean of the school of social work at the University of
6 Washington or an academic professor from a list recommended by the
7 dean, jointly appointed by the chairs of the house of representatives
8 children and family services committee and the senate human services
9 and corrections committee;

10 (b) Two members of the house of representatives appointed by the
11 speaker of the house of representatives, one of whom shall be a member
12 of the majority caucus and one of whom shall be a member of the
13 minority caucus, and two members of the senate appointed by the
14 president of the senate, one of whom shall be a member of the majority
15 caucus and one of whom shall be a member of the minority caucus;

16 (c) The secretary of the department of social and health services
17 or the secretary's designee;

18 (d) An individual with previous experience as an administrator of
19 a public agency providing services to children and families, jointly
20 appointed by the chairs of the house of representatives children and
21 family services committee and the senate human services and corrections
22 committee;

23 (e) A juvenile court administrator, jointly appointed by the chairs
24 of the house of representatives children and family services committee
25 and the senate human services and corrections committee;

26 (f) A family superior court judge, jointly appointed by the chairs
27 of the house of representatives children and family services committee
28 and the senate human services and corrections committee;

29 (g) The director of the office of the family and children's
30 ombudsman;

31 (h) A social worker with experience in the public sector serving
32 children and families, jointly appointed by the chairs of the house of
33 representatives children and family services committee and the senate
34 human services and corrections committee; and

35 (i) Two representatives of community-based providers serving
36 children and families, jointly appointed by the chairs of the house of

1 representatives children and family services committee and the senate
2 human services and corrections committee.

3 (2) The dean of the school of social work at the University of
4 Washington or the academic professor appointed from a list recommended
5 by the dean shall be the chair of the joint task force.

6 (3) Staff support for the joint task force shall be provided by the
7 house of representatives office of program research and senate
8 committee services.

9 (4) Legislative members of the joint task force shall be reimbursed
10 for travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120. Nonlegislative
11 members, except those representing an employer or organization, are
12 entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with RCW
13 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The joint task force shall make
15 recommendations concerning which administrative structure or structures
16 would best realize efficiencies in administration and best achieve
17 positive outcomes for children and families, including, but not limited
18 to, the following:

19 (a) Reducing the number of children at risk for abuse or neglect
20 and increasing the safety and well-being of children;

21 (b) Increasing the ability of families to care for their own
22 children and reducing the number of children in foster care;

23 (c) Increasing placement stability and permanency for children in
24 out-of-home care and reducing unsafe and inappropriate placements;

25 (d) Delivering appropriate and timely mental health services;

26 (e) Providing adequate and appropriate staff training and
27 education;

28 (f) Promoting foster parent recruitment, training, and retention;

29 (g) Reducing the frequency and duration of sibling separation;

30 (h) Delivering adequate and timely services to adolescents; and

31 (i) Increasing responsibility and accountability for achieving
32 goals.

33 (2) The joint task force shall also make recommendations concerning
34 the costs, benefits, savings, or reductions in services associated with
35 the various administrative structures considered by the joint task
36 force.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The joint task force shall report its
2 recommendations to the governor and the appropriate committees of the
3 legislature by December 1, 2005.

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