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ESSB 6792 - H COMM AMD By Committee on Appropriations

ADOPTED AS AMENDED 03/06/2008

- 1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the 2 following:
- "Sec. 1. RCW 13.34.215 and 2007 c 413 s 1 are each amended to read 3 4 as follows:
 - (1) A child may petition the juvenile court to reinstate the previously terminated parental rights of his or her parent under the following circumstances:
- 8 (a) The child was previously found to be a dependent child under 9 this chapter;
- 10 (b) The child's parent's rights were terminated in a proceeding 11 under this chapter;
 - (c) The child has not achieved his or her permanency plan within three years of a final order of termination((, or if the final order was appealed, within three years of exhaustion of any right to appeal the order terminating parental rights)); and
 - (d) ((Absent good cause,)) The child must be at least twelve years old at the time the petition is filed. Upon the child's motion for good cause shown, or on its own motion, the court may hear a petition filed by a child younger than twelve years old.
 - (2) A child seeking to petition under this section shall be provided counsel at no cost to the child.
- (3) The petition must be signed by the child in the absence of a 22 showing of good cause as to why the child could not do so. 23
- 24 (4) If, after a threshold hearing to consider the parent's apparent 25 fitness and interest in reinstatement of parental rights, ((it 26 appears)) the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the 27 best interests of the child may be served by reinstatement of parental 28 rights, the juvenile court shall order that a hearing on the merits of 29 the petition be held.

(5) The court shall give prior notice for any proceeding under this section, or cause prior notice to be given, to the department, the child's attorney, and the child. The court shall also order the department to give prior notice of any hearing to the child's former parent whose parental rights are the subject of the petition, any parent whose rights have not been terminated, the child's current foster parent, relative caregiver, quardian or custodian, and the child's tribe, if applicable.

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- (6) The juvenile court shall conditionally grant the petition if it finds by clear and convincing evidence that the child has not achieved his or her permanency plan and is not likely to imminently achieve his or her permanency plan and that reinstatement of parental rights is in the child's best interest. In determining whether reinstatement is in the child's best interest the court shall consider, but is not limited to, the following:
- (a) Whether the parent whose rights are to be reinstated is a fit parent and has remedied his or her deficits as provided in the record of the prior termination proceedings and prior termination order;
- (b) The age and maturity of the child, and the ability of the child to express his or her preference;
- (c) Whether the reinstatement of parental rights will present a risk to the child's health, welfare, or safety; and
- (d) Other material changes in circumstances, if any, that may have occurred which warrant the granting of the petition.
- (7) In determining whether the child has or has not achieved his or her permanency plan or whether the child is likely to achieve his or her permanency plan, the department shall provide the court, and the court shall review, information related to any efforts to achieve the permanency plan including efforts to achieve adoption or a permanent quardianship.
- (8)(a) If the court conditionally grants the petition under subsection (6) of this section, the case will be continued for six months and a temporary order of reinstatement entered. During this period, the child shall be placed in the custody of the parent. department shall develop a permanency plan for the child reflecting the plan to be reunification and shall provide transition services to the family as appropriate.

(b) If the child must be removed from the parent due to abuse or neglect allegations prior to the expiration of the conditional sixmonth period, the court shall dismiss the petition for reinstatement of parental rights if the court finds the allegations have been proven by a preponderance of the evidence.

- (c) If the child has been successfully placed with the parent for six months, the court order reinstating parental rights remains in effect and the court shall dismiss the dependency.
- (9) After the child has been placed with the parent for six months, the court shall hold a hearing. If the placement with the parent has been successful, the court shall enter a final order of reinstatement of parental rights, which shall restore all rights, powers, privileges, immunities, duties, and obligations of the parent as to the child, including those relating to custody, control, and support of the child. The court shall dismiss the dependency and direct the clerk's office to provide a certified copy of the final order of reinstatement of parental rights to the parent at no cost.

⁽¹⁰⁾ The granting of the petition under this section does not vacate or otherwise affect the validity of the original termination order.

^{((&}lt;del>(10))) (<u>11)</u> Any parent whose rights are reinstated under this section shall not be liable for any child support owed to the department pursuant to RCW 13.34.160 or <u>Title 26 RCW or costs of other</u> <u>services provided to a child</u> for the time period from the date of termination of parental rights to the date parental rights are reinstated.

 $^{((\}frac{11}{11}))$ (12) A proceeding to reinstate parental rights is a separate action from the termination of parental rights proceeding and does not vacate the original termination of parental rights. An order granted under this section reinstates the parental rights to the child. This reinstatement is a recognition that the situation of the parent and child have changed since the time of the termination of parental rights and reunification is now appropriate.

 $^{((\}frac{12}{12}))$ (13) This section is retroactive and applies to any child who is under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court at the time of the hearing regardless of the date parental rights were terminated.

⁽¹⁴⁾ The state, the department, and its employees are not liable for civil damages resulting from any act or omission in the provision

- of services under this section, unless the act or omission constitutes 1
- 2 gross negligence. This section does not create any duty and shall not
- be construed to create a duty where none exists. This section does not 3
- create a cause of action against the state, the department, or its 4
- employees concerning the original termination. 5

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- 6 **Sec. 2.** RCW 13.34.065 and 2007 c 413 s 5 are each amended to read 7 as follows:
 - (1)(a) When a child is taken into custody, the court shall hold a shelter care hearing within seventy-two hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. The primary purpose of the shelter care hearing is to determine whether the child can be immediately and safely returned home while the adjudication of the dependency is pending.
 - (b) Any parent, quardian, or legal custodian who for good cause is unable to attend the shelter care hearing may request that a subsequent shelter care hearing be scheduled. The request shall be made to the clerk of the court where the petition is filed prior to the initial shelter care hearing. Upon the request of the parent, the court shall schedule the hearing within seventy-two hours of the request, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. The clerk shall notify all other parties of the hearing by any reasonable means.
 - (2)(a) The department of social and health services shall submit a recommendation to the court as to the further need for shelter care in all cases in which it is the petitioner. In all other cases, the recommendation shall be submitted by the juvenile court probation counselor.
 - (b) All parties have the right to present testimony to the court regarding the need or lack of need for shelter care.
- (c) Hearsay evidence before the court regarding the need or lack of 28 29 need for shelter care must be supported by sworn testimony, affidavit, 30 or declaration of the person offering such evidence.
- 31 (3)(a) At the commencement of the hearing, the court shall notify the parent, guardian, or custodian of the following: 32
- (i) The parent, guardian, or custodian has the right to a shelter 33 34 care hearing;
- (ii) The nature of the shelter care hearing, the rights of the 35 36 parents, and the proceedings that will follow; and

(iii) If the parent, guardian, or custodian is not represented by counsel, the right to be represented. If the parent, guardian, or custodian is indigent, the court shall appoint counsel as provided in RCW 13.34.090; and

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- (b) If a parent, guardian, or legal custodian desires to waive the shelter care hearing, the court shall determine, on the record and with the parties present, whether such waiver is knowing and voluntary. parent may not waive his or her right to the shelter care hearing unless he or she appears in court and the court determines that the waiver is knowing and voluntary. Regardless of whether the court accepts the parental waiver of the shelter care hearing, the court must provide notice to the parents of their rights required under (a) of this subsection and make the finding required under subsection (4) of this section.
- (4) At the shelter care hearing the court shall examine the need for shelter care and inquire into the status of the case. paramount consideration for the court shall be the health, welfare, and safety of the child. At a minimum, the court shall inquire into the following:
- (a) Whether the notice required under RCW 13.34.062 was given to all known parents, quardians, or legal custodians of the child. court shall make an express finding as to whether the notice required under RCW 13.34.062 was given to the parent, guardian, or legal custodian. If actual notice was not given to the parent, guardian, or legal custodian and the whereabouts of such person is known or can be ascertained, the court shall order the supervising agency or the department of social and health services to make reasonable efforts to advise the parent, guardian, or legal custodian of the status of the case, including the date and time of any subsequent hearings, and their rights under RCW 13.34.090;
- (b) Whether the child can be safely returned home while the adjudication of the dependency is pending;
 - (c) What efforts have been made to place the child with a relative;
- (d) What services were provided to the family to prevent or eliminate the need for removal of the child from the child's home;
- (e) Is the placement proposed by the agency the least disruptive 36 37 and most family-like setting that meets the needs of the child;

- (f) Whether it is in the best interest of the child to remain enrolled in the school, developmental program, or child care the child was in prior to placement and what efforts have been made to maintain the child in the school, program, or child care if it would be in the best interest of the child to remain in the same school, program, or child care;
 - (q) Appointment of a quardian ad litem or attorney;

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- (h) Whether the child is or may be an Indian child as defined in 25 U.S.C. Sec. 1903, whether the provisions of the Indian child welfare act apply, and whether there is compliance with the Indian child welfare act, including notice to the child's tribe;
- (i) Whether, as provided in RCW 26.44.063, restraining orders, or orders expelling an allegedly abusive ((parent)) household member from the home of a nonabusive parent, quardian, or legal custodian, will allow the child to safely remain in the home;
- (j) Whether any orders for examinations, evaluations, or immediate services are needed. ((However,)) The court may not order a parent to undergo examinations, evaluation, or services at the shelter care hearing unless the parent agrees to the examination, evaluation, or service, except that if the court determines there is reasonable cause to believe the abuse of alcohol or controlled substances or unmet mental health needs are contributing factors to the alleged abuse or neglect or inability to properly provide care for the child, the court may order the parent to participate in a comprehensive chemical dependency or mental health evaluation as arranged by the department;
- (k) The terms and conditions for parental, sibling, and family visitation.
- (5)(a) The court shall release a child alleged to be dependent to the care, custody, and control of the child's parent, quardian, or legal custodian unless the court finds there is reasonable cause to believe that:
- (i) After consideration of the specific services that have been provided, reasonable efforts have been made to prevent or eliminate the need for removal of the child from the child's home and to make it possible for the child to return home; and
- (ii)(A) The child has no parent, quardian, or legal custodian to 36 37 provide supervision and care for such child; or

(B) The release of such child would present a serious threat of substantial harm to such child, notwithstanding an order entered pursuant to RCW 26.44.063; or

- (C) The parent, guardian, or custodian to whom the child could be released has been charged with violating RCW 9A.40.060 or 9A.40.070.
- (b) If the court does not release the child to his or her parent, guardian, or legal custodian, ((and the child was initially placed with a relative pursuant to RCW 13.34.060(1),)) the court shall order ((continued)) placement with a relative, unless there is reasonable cause to believe the health, safety, or welfare of the child would be jeopardized or that the efforts to reunite the parent and child will be hindered. The relative must be willing and available to:
- 13 (i) Care for the child and be able to meet any special needs of the child;
 - (ii) Facilitate the child's visitation with siblings, if such visitation is part of the supervising agency's plan or is ordered by the court; and
- 18 (iii) Cooperate with the department in providing necessary 19 background checks and home studies.
 - (c) If the child was not initially placed with a relative, and the court does not release the child to his or her parent, guardian, or legal custodian, the supervising agency shall make reasonable efforts to locate a relative pursuant to RCW 13.34.060(1).
 - (d) If a relative is not available, the court shall order continued shelter care or order placement with another suitable person, and the court shall set forth its reasons for the order. If the court orders placement of the child with a person not related to the child and not licensed to provide foster care, the placement is subject to all terms and conditions of this section that apply to relative placements.
 - (e) Any placement with a relative, or other person approved by the court pursuant to this section, shall be contingent upon cooperation with the agency case plan and compliance with court orders related to the care and supervision of the child including, but not limited to, court orders regarding parent-child contacts, sibling contacts, and any other conditions imposed by the court. Noncompliance with the case plan or court order is grounds for removal of the child from the home of the relative or other person, subject to review by the court.

(f) Uncertainty by a parent, guardian, legal custodian, relative, or other suitable person that the alleged abuser has in fact abused the child shall not, alone, be the basis upon which a child is removed from the care of a parent, quardian, or legal custodian under (a) of this subsection, nor shall it be a basis, alone, to preclude placement with a relative under (b) of this subsection or with another suitable person under (d) of this subsection.

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- (6)(a) A shelter care order issued pursuant to this section shall include the requirement for a case conference as provided in RCW 13.34.067. However, if the parent is not present at the shelter care hearing, or does not agree to the case conference, the court shall not include the requirement for the case conference in the shelter care order.
- (b) If the court orders a case conference, the shelter care order shall include notice to all parties and establish the date, time, and location of the case conference which shall be no later than thirty days before the fact-finding hearing.
- (c) The court may order another conference, case staffing, or hearing as an alternative to the case conference required under RCW 13.34.067 so long as the conference, case staffing, or hearing ordered by the court meets all requirements under RCW 13.34.067, including the requirement of a written agreement specifying the services to be provided to the parent.
- (7)(a) A shelter care order issued pursuant to this section may be amended at any time with notice and hearing thereon. The shelter care decision of placement shall be modified only upon a showing of change in circumstances. No child may be placed in shelter care for longer than thirty days without an order, signed by the judge, authorizing continued shelter care.
- (b)(i) An order releasing the child on any conditions specified in this section may at any time be amended, with notice and hearing thereon, so as to return the child to shelter care for failure of the parties to conform to the conditions originally imposed.
- (ii) The court shall consider whether nonconformance with any conditions resulted from circumstances beyond the control of the parent, quardian, or legal custodian and give weight to that fact before ordering return of the child to shelter care.

- (8)(a) If a child is returned home from shelter care a second time 1 2 in the case, or if the supervisor of the caseworker deems it necessary, the multidisciplinary team may be reconvened. 3
- (b) If a child is returned home from shelter care a second time in 4 5 the case a law enforcement officer must be present and file a report to the department. 6
- 7 **Sec. 3.** RCW 13.34.136 and 2007 c 413 s 7 are each amended to read 8 as follows:
 - (1) Whenever a child is ordered removed from the home, a permanency plan shall be developed no later than sixty days from the time the supervising agency assumes responsibility for providing services, including placing the child, or at the time of a hearing under RCW 13.34.130, whichever occurs first. The permanency planning process continues until a permanency planning goal is achieved or dependency is The planning process shall include reasonable efforts to dismissed. return the child to the parent's home.
 - (2) The agency supervising the dependency shall submit a written permanency plan to all parties and the court not less than fourteen days prior to the scheduled hearing. Responsive reports of parties not in agreement with the supervising agency's proposed permanency plan must be provided to the supervising agency, all other parties, and the court at least seven days prior to the hearing.

The permanency plan shall include:

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- (a) A permanency plan of care that shall identify one of the following outcomes as a primary goal and may identify additional outcomes as alternative goals: Return of the child to the home of the child's parent, guardian, or legal custodian; adoption; guardianship; permanent legal custody; long-term relative or foster care, until the child is age eighteen, with a written agreement between the parties and the care provider; successful completion of a responsible living skills program; or independent living, if appropriate and if the child is age sixteen or older. The department shall not discharge a child to an independent living situation before the child is eighteen years of age unless the child becomes emancipated pursuant to chapter 13.64 RCW;
- (b) Unless the court has ordered, pursuant to RCW 13.34.130((4))35 36 (5), that a termination petition be filed, a specific plan as to where 37 the child will be placed, what steps will be taken to return the child

home, what steps the agency will take to promote existing appropriate sibling relationships and/or facilitate placement together or contact in accordance with the best interests of each child, and what actions the agency will take to maintain parent-child ties. All aspects of the plan shall include the goal of achieving permanence for the child.

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- (i) The agency plan shall specify what services the parents will be offered to enable them to resume custody, what requirements the parents must meet to resume custody, and a time limit for each service plan and parental requirement.
- (ii) Visitation is the right of the family, including the child and the parent, in cases in which visitation is in the best interest of the Early, consistent, and frequent visitation is crucial for maintaining parent-child relationships and making it possible for parents and children to safely reunify. The agency shall encourage the maximum parent and child and sibling contact possible, when it is in the best interest of the child, including regular visitation and participation by the parents in the care of the child while the child is in placement. Visitation shall not be limited as a sanction for a parent's failure to comply with court orders or services where the health, safety, or welfare of the child is not at risk as a result of the visitation. Visitation may be limited or denied only if the court determines that such limitation or denial is necessary to protect the child's health, safety, or welfare. The court and the agency should rely upon community resources, relatives, foster parents, and other appropriate persons to provide transportation and supervision for visitation to the extent that such resources are available, and appropriate, and the child's safety would not be compromised.
- (iii) A child shall be placed as close to the child's home as possible, preferably in the child's own neighborhood, unless the court finds that placement at a greater distance is necessary to promote the child's or parents' well-being.
- (iv) The plan shall state whether both in-state and, where appropriate, out-of-state placement options have been considered by the department.
- (v) Unless it is not in the best interests of the child, whenever practical, the plan should ensure the child remains enrolled in the school the child was attending at the time the child entered foster care.

(vi) The agency charged with supervising a child in placement shall provide all reasonable services that are available within the agency, or within the community, or those services which the department has existing contracts to purchase. It shall report to the court if it is unable to provide such services; and

- (c) If the court has ordered, pursuant to RCW 13.34.130(((4+))) (5), that a termination petition be filed, a specific plan as to where the child will be placed, what steps will be taken to achieve permanency for the child, services to be offered or provided to the child, and, if visitation would be in the best interests of the child, a recommendation to the court regarding visitation between parent and child pending a fact-finding hearing on the termination petition. The agency shall not be required to develop a plan of services for the parents or provide services to the parents if the court orders a termination petition be filed. However, reasonable efforts to ensure visitation and contact between siblings shall be made unless there is reasonable cause to believe the best interests of the child or siblings would be jeopardized.
- (3) Permanency planning goals should be achieved at the earliest possible date, preferably before the child has been in out-of-home care for fifteen months. In cases where parental rights have been terminated, the child is legally free for adoption, and adoption has been identified as the primary permanency planning goal, it shall be a goal to complete the adoption within six months following entry of the termination order.
- (4) If the court determines that the continuation of reasonable efforts to prevent or eliminate the need to remove the child from his or her home or to safely return the child home should not be part of the permanency plan of care for the child, reasonable efforts shall be made to place the child in a timely manner and to complete whatever steps are necessary to finalize the permanent placement of the child.
- (5) The identified outcomes and goals of the permanency plan may change over time based upon the circumstances of the particular case.
- (6) The court shall consider the child's relationships with the child's siblings in accordance with RCW 13.34.130(3).
 - (7) For purposes related to permanency planning:
 - (a) "Guardianship" means a dependency guardianship or a legal

- guardianship pursuant to chapter 11.88 RCW or equivalent laws of another state or a federally recognized Indian tribe.
- 3 (b) "Permanent custody order" means a custody order entered 4 pursuant to chapter 26.10 RCW.
- 5 (c) "Permanent legal custody" means legal custody pursuant to 6 chapter 26.10 RCW or equivalent laws of another state or a federally 7 recognized Indian tribe.
- 8 **Sec. 4.** RCW 26.44.063 and 2000 c 119 s 12 are each amended to read 9 as follows:
- (1) It is the intent of the legislature to minimize trauma to a 10 child involved in an allegation of sexual or physical abuse. 11 12 legislature declares that removing the child from the home or the care of a parent, quardian, or legal custodian often has the effect of 13 further traumatizing the child. It is, therefore, the legislature's 14 intent that the alleged ((offender)) abuser, rather than the child, 15 16 shall be removed or restrained from the ((home)) child's residence and 17 that this should be done at the earliest possible point of intervention in accordance with RCW 10.31.100, ((13.34.130)) chapter 13.34 RCW, this 18 section, and RCW 26.44.130. 19

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- (2) In any judicial proceeding in which it is alleged that a child has been subjected to sexual or physical abuse, if the court finds reasonable grounds to believe that an incident of sexual or physical abuse has occurred, the court may, on its own motion, or the motion of the guardian ad litem or other parties, issue a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction restraining or enjoining the person accused of committing the abuse from:
 - (a) Molesting or disturbing the peace of the alleged victim;
- 28 (b) Entering the family home of the alleged victim except as 29 specifically authorized by the court;
 - (c) Having any contact with the alleged victim, except as specifically authorized by the court;
 - (d) Knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within, a specified distance of a specified location.
- 34 (3) <u>If the caretaker is willing, and does comply with the duties</u> 35 <u>prescribed in subsection (8) of this section, uncertainty by the</u> 36 <u>caretaker that the alleged abuser has in fact abused the alleged victim</u>

- (4) In issuing a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction, the court may impose any additional restrictions that the court in its discretion determines are necessary to protect the child from further abuse or emotional trauma pending final resolution of the abuse allegations.
- $((\frac{4}{1}))$ (5) The court shall issue a temporary restraining order prohibiting a person from entering the family home if the court finds that the order would eliminate the need for an out-of-home placement to protect the child's right to nurturance, health, and safety and is sufficient to protect the child from further sexual or physical abuse or coercion.
- (((5))) (6) The court may issue a temporary restraining order without requiring notice to the party to be restrained or other parties only if it finds on the basis of the moving affidavit or other evidence that irreparable injury could result if an order is not issued until the time for responding has elapsed.
- $((\frac{6}{1}))$ A temporary restraining order or preliminary 19 injunction: 20
 - (a) Does not prejudice the rights of a party or any child which are to be adjudicated at subsequent hearings in the proceeding; and
 - (b) May be revoked or modified.

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- $((\frac{7}{1}))$ (8) The person having physical custody of the child shall have an affirmative duty to assist in the enforcement of the restraining order including but not limited to a duty to notify the court as soon as practicable of any violation of the order, a duty to request the assistance of law enforcement officers to enforce the order, and a duty to notify the department of social and health services of any violation of the order as soon as practicable if the department is a party to the action. Failure by the custodial party to discharge these affirmative duties shall be subject to contempt proceedings.
- (((8))) (9) Willful violation of a court order entered under this section is a misdemeanor. A written order shall contain the court's directive and shall bear the legend: "Violation of this order with actual notice of its terms is a criminal offense under chapter 26.44

- RCW, is also subject to contempt proceedings, and will subject a 1 2 violator to arrest."
 - $((\frac{9}{1}))$ (10) If a restraining order issued under this section is modified or terminated, the clerk of the court shall notify the law enforcement agency specified in the order on or before the next judicial day. Upon receipt of notice that an order has been terminated, the law enforcement agency shall remove the order from any computer-based criminal intelligence system.
- 9 Sec. 5. RCW 71.24.035 and 2007 c 414 s 2, 2007 c 410 s 8, and 2007 c 375 s 12 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows: 10
- (1) The department is designated as the state mental health 11 authority. 12
 - (2) The secretary shall provide for public, client, and licensed service provider participation in developing the state mental health program, developing contracts with regional support networks, and any waiver request to the federal government under medicaid.
 - (3) The secretary shall provide for participation in developing the state mental health program for children and other underserved populations, by including representatives on any committee established to provide oversight to the state mental health program.
 - (4) The secretary shall be designated as the regional support network if the regional support network fails to meet state minimum standards or refuses to exercise responsibilities under RCW 71.24.045.
 - (5) The secretary shall:

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- Develop a biennial state mental health (a) program that incorporates regional biennial needs assessments and regional mental health service plans and state services for adults and children with mental illness. The secretary shall also develop a six-year state mental health plan;
- (b) Assure that any regional or county community mental health program provides access to treatment for the region's residents, including parents who are ((defendants)) respondents in dependency cases, in the following order of priority: (i) Persons with acute mental illness; (ii) adults with chronic mental illness and children who are severely emotionally disturbed; and (iii) persons who are seriously disturbed. Such programs shall provide:
 - (A) Outpatient services;

- (B) Emergency care services for twenty-four hours per day;
 - (C) Day treatment for persons with mental illness which includes training in basic living and social skills, supported work, vocational rehabilitation, and day activities. Such services may therapeutic treatment. In the case of a child, day treatment includes age-appropriate basic living and social skills, educational and prevocational services, day activities, and therapeutic treatment;
 - (D) Screening for patients being considered for admission to state mental health facilities to determine the appropriateness of admission;
 - (E) Employment services, which may include supported employment, transitional work, placement in competitive employment, and other workrelated services, that result in persons with mental illness becoming engaged in meaningful and gainful full or part-time work. sources of funding such as the division of vocational rehabilitation may be utilized by the secretary to maximize federal funding and provide for integration of services;
 - (F) Consultation and education services; and
 - (G) Community support services;

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- (c) Develop and adopt rules establishing state minimum standards for the delivery of mental health services pursuant to RCW 71.24.037 including, but not limited to:
- (i) Licensed service providers. These rules shall permit a countyoperated mental health program to be licensed as a service provider subject to compliance with applicable statutes and rules. secretary shall provide for deeming of compliance with state minimum standards for those entities accredited by recognized behavioral health accrediting bodies recognized and having a current agreement with the department;
 - (ii) Regional support networks; and
- (iii) Inpatient services, evaluation and treatment services and facilities under chapter 71.05 RCW, resource management services, and community support services;
- (d) Assure that the special needs of persons who are minorities, elderly, disabled, children, low-income, and parents ((defendants)) respondents in dependency cases are met within the priorities established in this section;
- 37 (e) Establish a standard contract or contracts, consistent with state minimum standards and RCW 71.24.320((-7)) and 71.24.330((-7))38

71.24.3201)), which shall be used in contracting with regional support networks. The standard contract shall include a maximum fund balance, which shall be consistent with that required by federal regulations or waiver stipulations;

- (f) Establish, to the extent possible, a standardized auditing procedure which minimizes paperwork requirements of regional support networks and licensed service providers. The audit procedure shall focus on the outcomes of service and not the processes for accomplishing them;
- (g) Develop and maintain an information system to be used by the state and regional support networks that includes a tracking method which allows the department and regional support networks to identify mental health clients' participation in any mental health service or public program on an immediate basis. The information system shall not include individual patient's case history files. Confidentiality of client information and records shall be maintained as provided in this chapter and in RCW 71.05.390, 71.05.420, and 71.05.440;
 - (h) License service providers who meet state minimum standards;
- (i) Certify regional support networks that meet state minimum standards;
- (j) Periodically monitor the compliance of certified regional support networks and their network of licensed service providers for compliance with the contract between the department, the regional support network, and federal and state rules at reasonable times and in a reasonable manner;
- (k) Fix fees to be paid by evaluation and treatment centers to the secretary for the required inspections;
- (1) Monitor and audit regional support networks and licensed service providers as needed to assure compliance with contractual agreements authorized by this chapter;
- (m) Adopt such rules as are necessary to implement the department's
 responsibilities under this chapter;
- (n) Assure the availability of an appropriate amount, as determined by the legislature in the operating budget by amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, of community-based, geographically distributed residential services;
- 37 (o) Certify crisis stabilization units that meet state minimum 38 standards; and

(p) Certify clubhouses that meet state minimum standards.

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- (6) The secretary shall use available resources only for regional support networks, except to the extent authorized, and in accordance with any priorities or conditions specified, in the biennial appropriations act.
- (7) Each certified regional support network and licensed service provider shall file with the secretary, on request, such data, statistics, schedules, and information as the secretary reasonably requires. A certified regional support network or licensed service provider which, without good cause, fails to furnish any data, statistics, schedules, or information as requested, or files fraudulent reports thereof, may have its certification or license revoked or suspended.
- (8) The secretary may suspend, revoke, limit, or restrict a certification or license, or refuse to grant a certification or license for failure to conform to: (a) The law; (b) applicable rules and regulations; (c) applicable standards; or (d) state minimum standards.
- (9) The superior court may restrain any regional support network or service provider from operating without certification or a license or any other violation of this section. The court may also review, pursuant to procedures contained in chapter 34.05 RCW, any denial, suspension, limitation, restriction, or revocation of certification or license, and grant other relief required to enforce the provisions of this chapter.
- (10) Upon petition by the secretary, and after hearing held upon reasonable notice to the facility, the superior court may issue a warrant to an officer or employee of the secretary authorizing him or her to enter at reasonable times, and examine the records, books, and accounts of any regional support network or service provider refusing to consent to inspection or examination by the authority.
- (11) Notwithstanding the existence or pursuit of any other remedy, the secretary may file an action for an injunction or other process against any person or governmental unit to restrain or prevent the establishment, conduct, or operation of a regional support network or service provider without certification or a license under this chapter.
- (12) The standards for certification of evaluation and treatment facilities shall include standards relating to maintenance of good

physical and mental health and other services to be afforded persons pursuant to this chapter and chapters 71.05 and 71.34 RCW, and shall otherwise assure the effectuation of the purposes of these chapters.

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- (13) The standards for certification of crisis stabilization units shall include standards that:
- (a) Permit location of the units at a jail facility if the unit is physically separate from the general population of the jail;
- (b) Require administration of the unit by mental health professionals who direct the stabilization and rehabilitation efforts; and
- 11 (c) Provide an environment affording security appropriate with the 12 alleged criminal behavior and necessary to protect the public safety.
- 13 (14) The standards for certification of a clubhouse shall at a 14 minimum include:
- 15 (a) The facilities may be peer-operated and must be 16 recovery-focused;
 - (b) Members and employees must work together;
 - (c) Members must have the opportunity to participate in all the work of the clubhouse, including administration, research, intake and orientation, outreach, hiring, training and evaluation of staff, public relations, advocacy, and evaluation of clubhouse effectiveness;
 - (d) Members and staff and ultimately the clubhouse director must be responsible for the operation of the clubhouse, central to this responsibility is the engagement of members and staff in all aspects of clubhouse operations;
 - (e) Clubhouse programs must be comprised of structured activities including but not limited to social skills training, vocational rehabilitation, employment training and job placement, and community resource development;
 - (f) Clubhouse programs must provide in-house educational programs that significantly utilize the teaching and tutoring skills of members and assist members by helping them to take advantage of adult education opportunities in the community;
- 34 (g) Clubhouse programs must focus on strengths, talents, and 35 abilities of its members;
- 36 (h) The work-ordered day may not include medication clinics, day 37 treatment, or other therapy programs within the clubhouse.

- (15) The department shall distribute appropriated state and federal funds in accordance with any priorities, terms, or conditions specified in the appropriations act.
- (16) The secretary shall assume all duties assigned to the nonparticipating regional support networks under chapters 71.05, 71.34, and 71.24 RCW. Such responsibilities shall include those which would have been assigned to the nonparticipating counties in regions where there are not participating regional support networks.

The regional support networks, or the secretary's assumption of all responsibilities under chapters 71.05, 71.34, and 71.24 RCW, shall be included in all state and federal plans affecting the state mental health program including at least those required by this chapter, the medicaid program, and P.L. 99-660. Nothing in these plans shall be inconsistent with the intent and requirements of this chapter.

(17) The secretary shall:

- (a) Disburse funds for the regional support networks within sixty days of approval of the biennial contract. The department must either approve or reject the biennial contract within sixty days of receipt.
- (b) Enter into biennial contracts with regional support networks. The contracts shall be consistent with available resources. No contract shall be approved that does not include progress toward meeting the goals of this chapter by taking responsibility for: (i) Short-term commitments; (ii) residential care; and (iii) emergency response systems.
- (c) Notify regional support networks of their allocation of available resources at least sixty days prior to the start of a new biennial contract period.
- (d) Deny all or part of the funding allocations to regional support networks based solely upon formal findings of noncompliance with the terms of the regional support network's contract with the department. Regional support networks disputing the decision of the secretary to withhold funding allocations are limited to the remedies provided in the department's contracts with the regional support networks.
- (18) The department, in cooperation with the state congressional delegation, shall actively seek waivers of federal requirements and such modifications of federal regulations as are necessary to allow federal medicaid reimbursement for services provided by free-standing

- evaluation and treatment facilities certified under chapter 71.05 RCW. 1
- 2 The department shall periodically report its efforts to the appropriate
- committees of the senate and the house of representatives. 3

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4 Sec. 6. RCW 74.13.031 and 2007 c 413 s 10 are each amended to read as follows: 5

The department shall have the duty to provide child welfare services and shall:

- (1) Develop, administer, supervise, and monitor a coordinated and comprehensive plan that establishes, aids, and strengthens services for the protection and care of runaway, dependent, or neglected children.
- (2) Within available resources, recruit an adequate number of prospective adoptive and foster homes, both regular and specialized, i.e. homes for children of ethnic minority, including Indian homes for Indian children, sibling groups, handicapped and emotionally disturbed, teens, pregnant and parenting teens, and annually report to the governor and the legislature concerning the department's success in: (a) Meeting the need for adoptive and foster home placements; (b) reducing the foster parent turnover rate; (c) completing home studies for legally free children; and (d) implementing and operating the passport program required by RCW 74.13.285. The report shall include

a section entitled "Foster Home Turn-Over, Causes and Recommendations."

- (3) Investigate complaints of any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker that results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, or sexual abuse or exploitation, or that presents an imminent risk of serious harm, and on the basis of the findings of such investigation, offer child welfare services in relation to the problem to such parents, legal custodians, or persons serving in loco parentis, and/or bring the situation to the attention of an appropriate court, or another community agency((: PROVIDED, That)). An investigation is not required of nonaccidental injuries which are clearly not the result of a lack of care or supervision by the child's parents, legal custodians, or persons serving in loco parentis. If the investigation reveals that a crime against a child may have been committed, the department shall notify the appropriate law enforcement agency.
- 36 (4) Offer, on a voluntary basis, family reconciliation services to 37 families who are in conflict.

(5) ((Monitor out of home placements, on a timely and routine basis, to assure the safety, well being, and quality of care being provided is within the scope of the intent of the legislature as defined in RCW 74.13.010 and 74.15.010, and annually submit a report measuring the extent to which the department achieved the specified goals to the governor and the legislature)) Monitor placements of children in out-of-home care and in-home dependencies to assure the safety, well-being, and quality of care being provided is within the scope of the intent of the legislature as defined in RCW 74.13.010 and 74.15.010. The policy for monitoring placements under this section shall require that children in out-of-home care and in-home dependencies and their caregivers receive a private and individual face-to-face visit each month.

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(a) The department shall conduct the monthly visits with children and caregivers required under this section unless the child's placement is being supervised under a contract between the department and a private agency accredited by a national child welfare accrediting entity, in which case the private agency shall, within existing resources, conduct the monthly visits with the child and with the child's caregiver according to the standards described in this subsection and shall provide the department with a written report of the visits within fifteen days of completing the visits.

⁽b) In cases where the monthly visits required under this subsection are being conducted by a private agency, the department shall conduct a face-to-face health and safety visit with the child at least once every ninety days.

⁽⁶⁾ Have authority to accept custody of children from parents and to accept custody of children from juvenile courts, where authorized to do so under law, to provide child welfare services including placement for adoption, to provide for the routine and necessary medical, dental, and mental health care, or necessary emergency care of the children, and to provide for the physical care of such children and make payment of maintenance costs if needed. Except where required by Public Law 95-608 (25 U.S.C. Sec. 1915), no private adoption agency which receives children for adoption from the department shall discriminate on the basis of race, creed, or color when considering applications in their placement for adoption.

1 (7) Have authority to provide temporary shelter to children who 2 have run away from home and who are admitted to crisis residential 3 centers.

- (8) Have authority to purchase care for children; and shall follow in general the policy of using properly approved private agency services for the actual care and supervision of such children insofar as they are available, paying for care of such children as are accepted by the department as eligible for support at reasonable rates established by the department.
- (9) Establish a children's services advisory committee which shall assist the secretary in the development of a partnership plan for utilizing resources of the public and private sectors, and advise on all matters pertaining to child welfare, licensing of child care agencies, adoption, and services related thereto. At least one member shall represent the adoption community.
- (10)(a) Have authority to provide continued foster care or group care as needed to participate in or complete a high school or vocational school program.
- (b)(i) Beginning in 2006, the department has the authority to allow up to fifty youth reaching age eighteen to continue in foster care or group care as needed to participate in or complete a posthigh school academic or vocational program, and to receive necessary support and transition services.
- (ii) In 2007 and 2008, the department has the authority to allow up to fifty additional youth per year reaching age eighteen to remain in foster care or group care as provided in (b)(i) of this subsection.
- (iii) A youth who remains eligible for such placement and services pursuant to department rules may continue in foster care or group care until the youth reaches his or her twenty-first birthday. Eligibility requirements shall include active enrollment in a posthigh school academic or vocational program and maintenance of a 2.0 grade point average.
- (11) Refer cases to the division of child support whenever state or federal funds are expended for the care and maintenance of a child, including a child with a developmental disability who is placed as a result of an action under chapter 13.34 RCW, unless the department finds that there is good cause not to pursue collection of child

support against the parent or parents of the child. Cases involving individuals age eighteen through twenty shall not be referred to the division of child support unless required by federal law.

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(12) Have authority within funds appropriated for foster care services to purchase care for Indian children who are in the custody of a federally recognized Indian tribe or tribally licensed child-placing agency pursuant to parental consent, tribal court order, or state juvenile court order; and the purchase of such care shall be subject to the same eligibility standards and rates of support applicable to other children for whom the department purchases care.

Notwithstanding any other provision of RCW 13.32A.170 through 13.32A.200 and 74.13.032 through 74.13.036, or of this section all services to be provided by the department of social and health services under subsections (4), (6), and (7) of this section, subject to the limitations of these subsections, may be provided by any program offering such services funded pursuant to Titles II and III of the federal juvenile justice and delinquency prevention act of 1974.

- (13) Within amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, provide preventive services to families with children that prevent or shorten the duration of an out-of-home placement.
- (14) Have authority to provide independent living services to youths, including individuals who have attained eighteen years of age, and have not attained twenty-one years of age who are or have been in foster care.
- (15) Consult at least quarterly with foster parents, including members of the foster parent association of Washington state, for the purpose of receiving information and comment regarding how the department is performing the duties and meeting the obligations specified in this section and RCW 74.13.250 and 74.13.320 regarding the recruitment of foster homes, reducing foster parent turnover rates, providing effective training for foster parents, and administering a coordinated and comprehensive plan that strengthens services for the protection of children. Consultation shall occur at the regional and statewide levels.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW 35 36 to read as follows:
- 37 (1) For the purpose of assisting foster youth in obtaining a

- 1 Washington state identicard, submission of the information and
- 2 materials listed in this subsection from the department to the
- 3 department of licensing is sufficient proof of identity and residency
- 4 and shall serve as the necessary authorization for the youth to apply
- 5 for and obtain a Washington state identicard:

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- 6 (a) A written signed statement prepared on department letterhead, 7 verifying the following:
 - (i) The youth is a minor who resides in Washington;
- 9 (ii) Pursuant to a court order, the youth is dependent and the 10 department or other supervising agency is the legal custodian of the 11 youth under chapter 13.34 RCW or under the interstate compact on the 12 placement of children;
- 13 (iii) The youth's full name and date of birth;
- 14 (iv) The youth's social security number, if available;
- 15 (v) A brief physical description of the youth;
- 16 (vi) The appropriate address to be listed on the youth's 17 identicard; and
- 18 (vii) Contact information for the appropriate person at the 19 department.
- 20 (b) A photograph of the youth, which may be digitized and 21 integrated into the statement.
- 22 (2) The department may provide the statement and the photograph via 23 any of the following methods, whichever is most efficient or 24 convenient:
 - (a) Delivered via first-class mail or electronically to the headquarters office of the department of licensing; or
- 27 (b) Hand-delivered to a local office of the department of licensing 28 by a department case worker.
- 29 (3) A copy of the statement shall be provided to the youth who 30 shall provide the copy to the department of licensing when making an 31 in-person application for a Washington state identicard.
- 32 (4) To the extent other identifying information is readily 33 available, the department shall include the additional information with 34 the submission of information required under subsection (1) of this 35 section.
- 36 **Sec. 8.** RCW 46.20.035 and 2004 c 249 s 2 are each amended to read 37 as follows:

The department may not issue an identicard or a Washington state driver's license that is valid for identification purposes unless the applicant meets the identification requirements of subsection (1), (2), or (3) of this section.

- (1) A driver's license or identicard applicant must provide the department with at least one of the following pieces of valid identifying documentation that contains the signature and a photograph of the applicant:
- (a) A valid or recently expired driver's license or instruction permit that includes the date of birth of the applicant;
- (b) A Washington state identicard or an identification card issued by another state;
- (c) An identification card issued by the United States, a state, or an agency of either the United States or a state, of a kind commonly used to identify the members or employees of the government agency;
 - (d) A military identification card;
 - (e) A United States passport; or

- (f) An Immigration and Naturalization Service form.
- (2) An applicant who is a minor may establish identity by providing an affidavit of the applicant's parent or guardian. The parent or guardian must accompany the minor and display or provide:
- (a) At least one piece of documentation in subsection (1) of this section establishing the identity of the parent or guardian; and
- (b) Additional documentation establishing the relationship between the parent or guardian and the applicant.
- (3) A person unable to provide identifying documentation as specified in subsection (1) or (2) of this section may request that the department review other available documentation in order to ascertain identity. The department may waive the requirement if it finds that other documentation clearly establishes the identity of the applicant.
- Notwithstanding the requirements in subsection (2) of this section, the department shall issue an identicard to an applicant for whom it receives documentation pursuant to section 7 of this act.
 - (4) An identicard or a driver's license that includes a photograph that has been renewed by mail or by electronic commerce is valid for identification purposes if the applicant met the identification requirements of subsection (1), (2), or (3) of this section at the time of previous issuance.

- (5) The form of an applicant's name, as established under this 1 2 section, is the person's name of record for the purposes of this 3 chapter.
- (6) If the applicant is unable to prove his or her identity under 4 5 this section, the department shall plainly label the license "not valid for identification purposes." 6
- 7 **Sec. 9.** RCW 41.06.142 and 2002 c 354 s 208 are each amended to 8 read as follows:

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- (1) Any department, agency, or institution of higher education may purchase services, including services that have been customarily and historically provided by employees in the classified service under this chapter, by contracting with individuals, nonprofit organizations, businesses, employee business units, or other entities if the following criteria are met:
- 15 (a) The invitation for bid or request for proposal contains 16 measurable standards for the performance of the contract;
 - (b) Employees in the classified service whose positions or work would be displaced by the contract are provided an opportunity to offer alternatives to purchasing services by contract and, if these alternatives are not accepted, compete for the contract under competitive contracting procedures in subsection (4) of this section;
 - (c) The contract with an entity other than an employee business unit includes a provision requiring the entity to consider employment of state employees who may be displaced by the contract;
 - (d) The department, agency, or institution of higher education has established a contract monitoring process to measure contract performance, costs, service delivery quality, and other contract standards, and to cancel contracts that do not meet those standards; and
 - (e) The department, agency, or institution of higher education has determined that the contract results in savings or efficiency The contracting agency must consider the consequences improvements. and potential mitigation of improper or failed performance by the contractor.
- (2) Any provision contrary to or in conflict with this section in 35 36 any collective bargaining agreement in effect on July 1, 2005, is not 37 effective beyond the expiration date of the agreement.

(3) Contracting for services that is expressly mandated by the legislature or was authorized by law prior to July 1, 2005, including contracts and agreements between public entities, shall not be subject to the processes set forth in subsections (1) ((and)), (4) ((through (6)), and (5) of this section.

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- (4) Competitive contracting shall be implemented as follows:
- (a) At least ninety days prior to the date the contracting agency requests bids from private entities for a contract for services provided by classified employees, the contracting agency shall notify the classified employees whose positions or work would be displaced by The employees shall have sixty days from the date of the contract. notification to offer alternatives to purchasing services by contract, and the agency shall consider the alternatives before requesting bids.
- (b) If the employees decide to compete for the contract, they shall notify the contracting agency of their decision. Employees must form one or more employee business units for the purpose of submitting a bid or bids to perform the services.
- (c) The director of personnel, with the advice and assistance of the department of general administration, shall develop and make available to employee business units training in the bidding process and general bid preparation.
- (d) The director of general administration, with the advice and assistance of the department of personnel, shall, by rule, establish procedures to ensure that bids are submitted and evaluated in a fair and objective manner and that there exists a competitive market for the service. Such rules shall include, but not be limited to: Prohibitions against participation in the bid evaluation process by employees who prepared the business unit's bid or who perform any of the services to be contracted; (ii) provisions to ensure no bidder receives an advantage over other bidders and that bid requirements are applied equitably to all parties; and (iii) procedures that require the contracting agency to receive complaints regarding the bidding process and to consider them before awarding the contract. Appeal of an agency's actions under this subsection is an adjudicative proceeding and subject to the applicable provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW, the administrative procedure act, with the final decision to be rendered by an administrative law judge assigned under chapter 34.12 RCW.

- (e) An employee business unit's bid must include the fully allocated costs of the service, including the cost of the employees' salaries and benefits, space, equipment, materials, and other costs necessary to perform the function. An employee business unit's cost shall not include the state's indirect overhead costs unless those costs can be attributed directly to the function in question and would not exist if that function were not performed in state service.
- (f) A department, agency, or institution of higher education may contract with the department of general administration to conduct the bidding process.
 - (5) As used in this section:

- (a) "Employee business unit" means a group of employees who perform services to be contracted under this section and who submit a bid for the performance of those services under subsection (4) of this section.
- (b) "Indirect overhead costs" means the pro rata share of existing agency administrative salaries and benefits, and rent, equipment costs, utilities, and materials associated with those administrative functions.
- (c) "Competitive contracting" means the process by which classified employees of a department, agency, or institution of higher education compete with businesses, individuals, nonprofit organizations, or other entities for contracts authorized by subsection (1) of this section.
- (6) ((The joint legislative audit and review committee shall conduct a performance audit of the implementation of this section, including the adequacy of the appeals process in subsection (4)(d) of this section, and report to the legislature by January 1, 2007, on the results of the audit.)) The requirements of this section do not apply to RCW 74.13.031(5).
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. A new section is added to chapter 74.15 RCW to read as follows:
- To be eligible for placement in a HOPE center, a minor must be either a street youth, as that term is defined in this chapter, or a youth who, without placement in a HOPE center, will continue to participate in increasingly risky behavior. Youth may also self-refer to a HOPE center. Payment for a HOPE center bed is not contingent upon prior approval by the department.

- **Sec. 11.** RCW 74.15.240 and 1999 c 267 s 14 are each amended to 1 2 read as follows:
- To be eligible for placement in a responsible living skills 3 program, the minor must be dependent under chapter 13.34 RCW and must 4 5 have lived in a HOPE center or in a secure crisis residential center.
- However, if the minor's caseworker determines that placement in a 6
- 7 responsible living skills program would be the most appropriate
- placement given the minor's current circumstances, prior residence in 8
- a HOPE center or secure crisis residential center before placement in 9
- a responsible living program is not required. Responsible living 10
- skills centers are intended as a placement alternative for dependent 11
- youth that the department chooses for the youth because no other 12
- 13 services or alternative placements have been successful. Responsible
- living skills centers are not for dependent youth whose permanency plan 14
- includes return to home or family reunification. 15
- 16 NEW SECTION. Sec. 12. Section 6 of this act takes effect December
- 31, 2008. 17
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 13. If specific funding for the purposes of 18
- this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not 19
- 20 provided by June 30, 2008, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act
- is null and void. " 21
- 22 Correct the title.

--- END ---