

SSB 5510 - H AMD 898

By Representative Kagi

ADOPTED 04/25/2009

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 13.34 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) After entry of a dispositional order pursuant to RCW 13.34.130
6 ordering placement of a child in out-of-home care, the department shall
7 continue to encourage the parent, guardian, or custodian of the child
8 to engage in services and maintain contact with the child, which shall
9 be accomplished by attaching a standard notice to the services and
10 safety plan to be provided in advance of hearings conducted pursuant to
11 RCW 13.34.138.

12 (2) The notice shall be photocopied on contrasting paper to
13 distinguish it from the services and safety plan to which it is
14 attached, and shall be in substantially the following form:

15 "NOTICE

16 If you have not been maintaining consistent contact with your child
17 in out-of-home care, your ability to reunify with your child may be
18 jeopardized. If this is your situation, you need to be aware that you
19 have important legal rights and must take steps to protect your
20 interests.

21 1. The department of social and health services (or other
22 supervising agency) and the court have created a permanency plan for
23 your child, including a primary placement plan and a secondary
24 placement plan, and recommending services needed before your child can
25 be placed in the primary or secondary placement. If you want the court
26 to order that your child be reunified with you, you should notify your
27 lawyer and the department, and you should carefully comply with court

1 orders for services and participate regularly in visitation with your
2 child. Failure to promptly engage in services or to maintain contact
3 with your child may lead to the filing of a petition to terminate your
4 rights as a parent.

5 2. Primary and secondary permanency plans are intended to run at
6 the same time so that your child will have a permanent home as quickly
7 as possible. Even if you want another parent or person to be the
8 primary placement choice for your child, you should tell your lawyer,
9 the department, and the court if you want to be the secondary placement
10 option, and you should comply with any court orders for services and
11 participate in visitation with your child. Early and consistent
12 involvement in your child's case plan is important for the well-being
13 of your child.

14 3. Dependency review hearings, and all other dependency case
15 hearings, are legal proceedings with potentially serious consequences.
16 Failure to participate, respond, or comply with court orders may lead
17 to the loss of your parental rights."

18 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Strikes the underlying bill and requires a standard
single-page notice be attached to all Individual Services and Safety
Plans prepared in children's dependency cases reminding parents of the
importance of engaging in services, complying with court orders, and
maintaining contact with the child.

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