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SENATE BILL 6071

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State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senator Haugen

Read first time 02/20/09. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to foster parent training on autistic children; and  
2 amending RCW 74.13.310.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.13.310 and 1990 c 284 s 13 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1) Adequate foster parent training has been identified as directly  
7 associated with increasing the length of time foster parents are  
8 willing to provide foster care and reducing the number of placement  
9 disruptions for children. Placement disruptions can be harmful to  
10 children by denying them consistent and nurturing support. Foster  
11 parents have expressed the desire to receive training in addition to  
12 the foster parent SCOPE training currently offered. Foster parents who  
13 care for more demanding children, such as children with severe  
14 emotional, mental, or physical handicaps, would especially benefit from  
15 additional training. The department shall develop additional training  
16 for foster parents that focuses on skills to assist foster parents in  
17 caring for ~~((emotionally, mentally, or physically handicapped))~~  
18 children with mental, emotional, or physical disabilities.

1        (2) No later than January 1, 2010, the department shall develop for  
2 inclusion into its current foster parent training program a section  
3 devoted to the characteristics, management of, and needs of children  
4 with autism.

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