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**HOUSE BILL 1761**

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**State of Washington 66th Legislature 2019 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Young, Shea, Walsh, Van Werven, Kraft, and Graham

AN ACT Relating to homeschooling foster youth; adding a new section to chapter 74.15 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  In August 2016, the department of social and health services proposed changes to foster parent licensing forbidding the provision of home-based instruction to all children in the care and custody of the department. This rule was made effective September 19, 2016, as WAC 388-148-1525. It was then recodified as WAC 110-148-1525 with the department of children, youth, and families, effective July 1, 2018.

As home-based instruction can be an appropriate and effective educational model for foster youth, the legislature intends to reverse WAC 110-148-1525(1)(b) and allow foster parents to provide home-based instruction to foster youth.

NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  A new section is added to chapter 74.15 RCW to read as follows:

Foster youth are able to receive home-based instruction as described by RCW 28A.225.010(4), including a home-based instruction offered by a foster parent, unless expressly prohibited by court order after a court finds that it would not be in the child's best interest to receive home-based instruction.

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