CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5885**

Chapter 90, Laws of 2019

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

CHILD VICTIM OF SEX OFFENSE--ADMISSIBILITY OF STATEMENTS

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 28, 2019

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| Passed by the Senate March 11, 2019  Yeas 48 Nays 0  KAREN KEISER  **President of the Senate**  Passed by the House April 10, 2019  Yeas 95 Nays 0  FRANK CHOPP  **Speaker of the House of Representatives** | CERTIFICATE  I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5885** as passed by Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.  BRAD HENDRICKSON  Secretary |
| Approved April 19, 2019 11:48 AM | April 22, 2019 |
| JAY INSLEE  **Governor of the State of Washington** | **Secretary of State**  **State of Washington** |

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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5885**

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Passed Legislature - 2019 Regular Session

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

**By** Senate Law & Justice (originally sponsored by Senators Padden, Dhingra, O'Ban, Wilson, C., and Nguyen)

AN ACT Relating to the admissibility of testimony of children in criminal and dependency proceedings; and amending RCW 9A.44.120.

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

**Sec.**  RCW 9A.44.120 and 1995 c 76 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) A statement not otherwise admissible by statute or court rule, is admissible in evidence in dependency proceedings under Title 13 RCW and criminal proceedings, including juvenile offense adjudications, in the courts of the state of Washington if:

(a)(i) It is made by a child when under the age of ten describing any act of sexual contact performed with or on the child by another, describing any attempted act of sexual contact with or on the child by another, or describing any act of physical abuse of the child by another that results in substantial bodily harm as defined by RCW 9A.04.110((~~, not otherwise admissible by statute or court rule, is admissible in evidence in dependency proceedings under Title 13 RCW and criminal proceedings, including juvenile offense adjudications, in the courts of the state of Washington if:~~)); or

(ii) It is made by a child when under the age of sixteen describing any of the following acts or attempted acts performed with or on the child: Trafficking under RCW 9A.40.100; commercial sexual abuse of a minor under RCW 9.68A.100; promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor under RCW 9.68A.101; or promoting travel for commercial sexual abuse of a minor under RCW 9.68A.102;

((~~(1)~~)) (b) The court finds, in a hearing conducted outside the presence of the jury, that the time, content, and circumstances of the statement provide sufficient indicia of reliability; and

((~~(2)~~)) (c) The child either:

((~~(a)~~)) (i) Testifies at the proceedings; or

((~~(b)~~)) (ii) Is unavailable as a witness((~~: PROVIDED~~)), except that when the child is unavailable as a witness, such statement may be admitted only if there is corroborative evidence of the act.

(2) A statement may not be admitted under this section unless the proponent of the statement makes known to the adverse party his or her intention to offer the statement and the particulars of the statement sufficiently in advance of the proceedings to provide the adverse party with a fair opportunity to prepare to meet the statement.

**--- END ---**

Passed by the Senate March 11, 2019.

Passed by the House April 10, 2019.

Approved by the Governor April 19, 2019.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 22, 2019.