

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SENATE BILL 5184**

67th Legislature  
2021 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate February 3, 2021  
Yeas 49 Nays 0

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**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House April 5, 2021  
Yeas 98 Nays 0

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**Speaker of the House of  
Representatives**

Approved

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 5184** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

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**Secretary**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SENATE BILL 5184**

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Passed Legislature - 2021 Regular Session

**State of Washington**

**67th Legislature**

**2021 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Nobles, Wellman, Billig, Carlyle, Conway, Das, Dhingra, Frockt, Hasegawa, Hunt, Kuderer, Liiias, Lovelett, Nguyen, Randall, Saldaña, Salomon, and Wilson, C.; by request of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Read first time 01/13/21. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a building point of contact in  
2 all K-12 public schools for students in foster care; amending RCW  
3 28A.320.148; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature acknowledges that students  
6 in foster care often face additional challenges, both academically  
7 and emotionally. When students are connected with a caring adult, are  
8 attending school regularly, and have the supports they need, they are  
9 more likely to be successful in school and in life. Schools, child  
10 welfare agencies, communities, and families must work together to  
11 provide the equitable opportunities, specialized services, and useful  
12 supports that are essential for students in foster care. By  
13 establishing a building point of contact, the legislature intends to  
14 further support coordination of resources and facilitation of  
15 compliance with state and federal laws related to students who are  
16 dependent pursuant to chapter 13.34 RCW.

17 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.320.148 and 2018 c 139 s 3 are each amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 (1) Each school district must designate a foster care liaison to  
20 facilitate district compliance with state and federal laws related to

1 students (~~(in out of home care)~~) who are dependent pursuant to  
2 chapter 13.34 RCW and to collaborate with the department of children,  
3 youth, and families to address educational barriers for these  
4 students. The role and responsibilities of a foster care liaison may  
5 include:

6 (a) Coordinating with the department of children, youth, and  
7 families on the implementation of state and federal laws related to  
8 students (~~(in out of home care)~~) who are dependent pursuant to  
9 chapter 13.34 RCW;

10 (b) Coordinating with foster care education program staff at the  
11 office of the superintendent of public instruction;

12 (c) Attending training and professional development opportunities  
13 to improve school district implementation efforts;

14 (d) Serving as the primary contact person for representatives of  
15 the department of children, youth, and families;

16 (e) Leading and documenting the development of a process for  
17 making best interest determinations in accordance with RCW  
18 28A.225.350;

19 (f) Facilitating immediate enrollment in accordance with RCW  
20 28A.225.330;

21 (g) Facilitating the transfer of records in accordance with RCW  
22 28A.150.510 and 28A.225.330;

23 (h) Facilitating data sharing with child welfare agencies  
24 consistent with state and federal privacy laws and rules;

25 (i) Developing and coordinating local transportation procedures;

26 (j) Managing best interest determination and transportation cost  
27 disputes according to the best practices developed by the office of  
28 the superintendent of public instruction;

29 (k) Ensuring that students (~~(in out of home care)~~) who are  
30 dependent pursuant to chapter 13.34 RCW are enrolled in and regularly  
31 attending school, consistent with RCW 28A.225.023; and

32 (l) Providing professional development and training to school  
33 staff on state and federal laws related to students (~~(in out of home~~  
34 ~~care)~~) who are dependent pursuant to chapter 13.34 RCW and their  
35 educational needs, as needed.

36 (2) (~~(For the purposes of this section, "out of home care" has~~  
37 ~~the same meaning as in RCW 13.34.030.)~~) Each K-12 public school in  
38 the state must establish a building point of contact in each  
39 elementary school, middle school, and high school. These points of  
40 contact must be appointed by the principal of the designated school,

1 in consultation with the district foster care liaison, and are  
2 responsible for coordinating services and resources for students in  
3 foster care as outlined in subsection (1) of this section.

4 (3) The district foster care liaison is responsible for training  
5 building points of contact.

6 (4) The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall  
7 make available best practices for choosing and training building  
8 points of contact to each school district.

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