
SENATE BILL 5645

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senators Darneille, Van De Wege, Wilson, C., and Hunt

Read first time 01/25/19. Referred to Committee on Human Services,
Reentry & Rehabilitation.

1 AN ACT Relating to child-placing agencies; creating a new
2 section; providing an expiration date; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The department of children, youth, and
5 families shall conduct a child-placing agency contract evaluation.
6 The contract evaluation must include, but is not limited to,
7 consideration of whether current contracts reflect the services
8 provided by and responsibilities awarded to child-placing agencies,
9 the appropriateness of data-sharing agreements between child-placing
10 agencies and the department and whether changes to such agreements
11 are recommended, and whether the contracts appropriately clarify the
12 role of child-placing agencies within the foster care continuum in
13 relation to foster parents, state case workers, and other
14 stakeholders. The department shall complete the contract evaluation
15 by July 15, 2019.

16 (2) The department of children, youth, and families shall
17 contract with an outside entity to conduct a rate analysis of current
18 rates compared with actual costs incurred by child-placing agencies.
19 The analysis required under this section must be completed by October
20 1, 2019.

1 (3) The department of children, youth, and families shall
2 facilitate a stakeholder work group in a collaborative effort to
3 design a child-placing agency rate payment methodology based on
4 actual provider costs of care. The work group shall consider the
5 findings of the contracted rate analysis in designing the
6 methodology. By December 15, 2019, and in compliance with RCW
7 43.01.036, the department must submit a report of findings and
8 recommendations from the stakeholder work group and contracted rate
9 analysis to the appropriate committees of the legislature.

10 (4) For the purposes of this section, "child-placing agency"
11 means an entity defined by RCW 74.15.020(1)(a) that contracts with
12 the department of children, youth, and families.

13 (5) This section expires July 1, 2020.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate
15 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
16 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes
17 effect immediately.

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