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HOUSE BILL 1367

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State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Sullivan, McCaslin, Eslick, Dent, Senn, Corry, and Appleton

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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