

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1879**

Chapter 283, Laws of 2015

64th Legislature  
2015 Regular Session

MEDICAID--FOSTER YOUTH SERVICES

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/24/2015

Passed by the House April 23, 2015  
Yeas 96 Nays 2

FRANK CHOPP

**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 14, 2015  
Yeas 44 Nays 3

BRAD OWEN

**President of the Senate**

Approved May 18, 2015 1:51 PM

JAY INSLEE

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1879** as passed by House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BARBARA BAKER

**Chief Clerk**

FILED

May 18, 2015

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1879**

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2015 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      64th Legislature                      2015 Regular Session**

**By** House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Kagi, Walsh, Cody, Harris, Orwall, Tarleton, and Ormsby)

READ FIRST TIME 02/20/15.

1            AN ACT Relating to directing the health care authority to issue a  
2 request for proposals for integrated managed health and behavioral  
3 health services for foster children; amending RCW 74.09.490; and  
4 adding a new section to chapter 74.09 RCW.

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

6            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    A new section is added to chapter 74.09  
7 RCW to read as follows:

8            The authority shall issue a request for proposals to provide  
9 integrated managed health and behavioral health care for foster  
10 children receiving care through the medical assistance program.  
11 Behavioral health services provided under chapters 71.24, 71.34, and  
12 70.96A RCW must be integrated into the managed health care plan for  
13 foster children beginning October 1, 2018. The request for proposals  
14 must address the program elements described in section 110, chapter  
15 225, Laws of 2014, including development of a service delivery  
16 system, benefit design, reimbursement mechanisms, incorporation or  
17 coordination of services currently provided by the regional support  
18 networks, and standards for contracting with health plans. The  
19 request for proposals must be issued and completed in time for  
20 services under the integrated managed care plan to begin on October  
21 1, 2016.

1       **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.09.490 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 15 s 23 are each  
2 amended to read as follows:

3       (1) The authority, in consultation with the evidence-based  
4 practice institute established in RCW 71.24.061, shall develop and  
5 implement policies to improve prescribing practices for treatment of  
6 emotional or behavioral disturbances in children, improve the quality  
7 of children's mental health therapy through increased use of  
8 evidence-based and research-based practices and reduced variation in  
9 practice, improve communication and care coordination between primary  
10 care and mental health providers, and prioritize care in the family  
11 home or care which integrates the family where out-of-home placement  
12 is required.

13       (2) The authority shall identify those children with emotional or  
14 behavioral disturbances who may be at high risk due to off-label use  
15 of prescription medication, use of multiple medications, high  
16 medication dosage, or lack of coordination among multiple prescribing  
17 providers, and establish one or more mechanisms to evaluate the  
18 appropriateness of the medication these children are using, including  
19 but not limited to obtaining second opinions from experts in child  
20 psychiatry.

21       (3) The authority shall review the psychotropic medications of  
22 all children under five and establish one or more mechanisms to  
23 evaluate the appropriateness of the medication these children are  
24 using, including but not limited to obtaining second opinions from  
25 experts in child psychiatry.

26       (4) Within existing funds, the authority shall require a second  
27 opinion review from an expert in psychiatry for all prescriptions of  
28 one or more antipsychotic medications of all children under eighteen  
29 years of age in the foster care system. Thirty days of a prescription  
30 medication may be dispensed pending the second opinion review. The  
31 second opinion feedback must include discussion of the psychosocial  
32 interventions that have been or will be offered to the child and  
33 caretaker if appropriate in order to address the behavioral issues  
34 brought to the attention of the prescribing physician.

35       (5) The authority shall track prescriptive practices with respect  
36 to psychotropic medications with the goal of reducing the use of  
37 medication.

38       ~~((+5))~~ (6) The authority shall ~~((encourage—the))~~ promote the  
39 appropriate use of cognitive behavioral therapies and other  
40 treatments which are empirically supported or evidence-based, in

1 addition to or in the place of prescription medication where  
2 appropriate and such interventions are available.

Passed by the House April 23, 2015.

Passed by the Senate April 14, 2015.

Approved by the Governor May 18, 2015.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 18, 2015.

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