
OFA Bill Analysis

SHB 6900 (as amended by House "A")*

AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSFORMING CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE.

SUMMARY:

The bill makes various changes regarding the Behavioral and Mental Health Policy and Oversight Committee, including 1) changing the name 2) changing the number of committee members and 3) changing reporting dates.

*House Amendment "A" (1) changes the effective date to effective from passage and (2) changes the deadline for when the committee must hold its first meeting from July 1, 2023 to September 1, 2023.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective from passage

Committee Changes

The bill changes the name of the committee to Transforming Children's Behavioral Health Policy and Planning Committee and defines behavioral health as mental health and substance use disorders, as well as overall psychological well-being.

The bill requires the speaker of the House and the president pro tempore of the Senate to each select one chairperson and increases the number of committee members by four:

1. Two appointed by the chairperson of the committee selected by the speaker of the House of Representatives, with one who is a child or youth advocate.

2. Two appointed by the chairperson of the committee selected by the president pro tempore of the Senate, with one who is a child or youth advocate.

The bill specifies that the committee will hold its first meeting by September 1, 2023, and changes its initial reporting deadline to December 1, 2023, and its final reporting deadline to December 1, 2024.

The bill makes various changes to the reporting requirements of the committee:

1. Includes urban, rural, and other areas of the state in the governance structure for the children's behavioral health system.
2. Allows instead of requiring the committee to consult with certain children's behavioral health organizations, to include two or more subcommittees chaired by a member of the committee to inform its recommendations, and collaborate with certain state agencies.
3. Removes the requirement that the committee shall work with a results-first initiative.
4. Allows instead of requiring the committee to include two or more subcommittees chaired by a member of the committee to inform its recommendations.
5. Requires the committee to annually establish a work plan.

The bill also makes various minor and technical changes.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea	52	Nay	0	Absent/Not Voting	1
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