

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**CARRIER:**

Senate Committee on Human Services and Early Childhood

REVENUE: No revenue impact**FISCAL:** Fiscal statement**SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:** Ways and Means**Action:****Vote:**

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Cheyenne Ross, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 3/12, 4/14, 4/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires Department of Human Services (DHS) administer pilot program to improve outcomes for those in its custody or foster care. Establishes requirements for program, including cultural training, targeting those who have experienced multiple placements, and implementation in both rural and urban regions. Requires evaluation and report to legislature by September 15, 2016. Appropriates one million General Fund dollars. Sunsets January 2, 2017. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Amendment pending to focus on services that support healing foster homes
- Integrating treatment with foster care
- “Trauma-informed” training
- Improving placement stability and success of foster relationships

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

[-3 amendment] Replaces general requirement for appropriate training and support with enumerated list of several specific, required services. Requires advisory groups that include people with specific experiences. Changes report due date from September 15, 2016, to May 1, 2017; and extends sunset from January 2, 2017, to June 30 of 2017.

BACKGROUND: Senate Bill 632 was introduced in response to concerns expressed by foster parents and youth, based on their experience of the foster care system. It appropriates one million dollars for the Department of Human Services (DHS) to implement a pilot program that seeks to improve outcomes for those in its custody or in foster care, in both rural and urban regions, with an evaluation and report back to the Legislature by September 15, 2016.