

WASHINGTON DEFENDER ASSOCIATION

WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS

Incarcerated Parents Project Legislative Policy Agenda 2020

Keeping Parents Facing Prison in Community. Expanding the Parenting Sentencing Alternatives Programs. Reunifying parents with support through this sentencing alternative improves the quality of child-parent reunification and improves public safety. It is counter-productive to leave parents in prison or to send parents to prison who would otherwise be good candidates to serve their final 12 months of imprisonment on electronic home monitoring while completing a successful parenting program.

Sponsor: Senator Jeannie Darnielle
Bill Number: SB 5291
Committee: Human Services, Reentry & Rehabilitation
Hearing: 1/16/2020 1:30 PM
Senate Full Committee, Senate Hearing Rm 4, J.A. Cherberg Building, Olympia, WA

Parental Volunteering in Schools After Criminal Conviction. This bill ensures that a parent, legal guardian, or grandparent (hereinafter, "parent"), who has been issued a document demonstrating in innocence, pardon, expungement, and other forms of rehabilitation, cannot be denied because of their past criminal convictions to volunteer in their child's schools. It creates a consistent process for all Washington schools to use when assessing a parent who is not eligible to pursue those documents or who has not yet received such a document and an appeals process for those denied. Washington's schools should prioritize parental volunteering for the children who have experienced parental incarceration.

Sponsor: Representative Laurie Dolan
Bill Number: HB 2220
Committee: Education
Hearing: 1/13/2020 at 1:30 PM
House Full Committee, House Hearing Rm A, J.L. O'Brien Building, Olympia, WA

Making Substitute Caregiving Arrangements. This bill makes RCW 11.130.915 providing for parental use of power of attorney documents to create minor child caregiving arrangements for up to 24 months effective in 2020.

Sponsor: Senator Jamie Pedersen
Bill Number: *forthcoming*
Committee: Law & Justice
Hearing: tentatively set for 1/28/2020 10:00 AM
Senate Full Committee, Senate Hearing Rm TBD, J.A. Cherberg Building, Olympia, WA

For more information, contact:

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