



Please Vote YES on SB19-031

Child Welfare Allocation Committee Composition

Sponsors: Sen. Gardner, Rep. Lontine & Rep. Liston
Co Sponsor: Sen. Court

Problem:

Currently, the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) appoints five representatives to the Child Welfare Allocation Committee (CWAC). Of those five, two are appointments from counties with the largest caseload.

Counties are responsible for protecting vulnerable children from abuse and neglect. Allowing CDHS to appoint a 'county's representative creates a disjointed connection and accountability between the county and the critically important work that is done in meeting the community's child welfare needs.

Solution:

SB19-031 allows Denver and El Paso Counties (the two counties – currently - with the largest child welfare caseload pursuant to CRS 26-5-103.5) to appoint their representatives to the Child Welfare Allocation Committee (CWAC).

This ensures that the governing bodies of these two counties determine who is best to represent their communities' interests in the evolving field of protecting vulnerable children and maintain their accountability to their respective communities.

The bill also states that no county may have more than one representative serving on the CWAC. This ensures greater representation of counties on the committee.

Finally, SB 31, as amended in the senate, provides two additional, non-voting members to the CWAC. These non-voting members may provide additional expertise on related subject matters such as federal funding streams like Medicaid and the new federal Family First Prevention Services Act of 2018.

Please Support SB19-031

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