




STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES
1500 Jefferson Street, SE • P.O. Box 40975 • Olympia WA 98504-0975

POLICY MEMO
June 27, 2023

TO: Child Welfare Employees
FROM: Natalie Green, Assistant Secretary 
RE: Changes to Child Welfare Policy

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2023

SUNSET REVIEW DATE: July 1, 2024

The purpose of this memo is to provide guidance to Child Welfare (CW) employees of the updated policy and procedure requirements to align with [House Bill 1227: Keeping Families Together Act](#) and [KW](#), and [LCS](#) supreme court decisions.

There are a total of 12 Child Welfare policies affected due to these recent legislation or court decisions. The policies are currently in the process of being updated to reflect these changes. In the meantime, the changes are being implemented through policy memos that take effect July 1, 2023. The policy memos are attached to this email and located on the top of each specific policy on the [Policies and Procedures](#) page.

We recognize this may seem overwhelming to staff. The policy memos are short and include essential information for staff to be aware of. Please review all 12 attached policy memos for full details of the changes. Additional resources have also been attached to support staff in implementing these changes.

Questions

If you have questions, please contact the program manager listed for each individual policy or Chelsea Griffin, Policy, Implementation, and Change Manager, at chelsea.griffin@dcyf.wa.gov or 360-502-3571.

Cc: Brenda Villarreal