



2022 Lead Legislative Agenda

Black and Indigenous youth, and other youth of color (BIPOC youth) are overrepresented in foster care, among those experiencing homelessness, and in our juvenile justice system due to historic and current systemic racism. We are committed to eliminating these racial disparities and addressing the impacts that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on young people. As always, our legislative agenda is guided and inspired by youth with lived experience.

Juvenile Record Expungement

Juvenile records have significant consequences for young people and can cause youth difficulties as young adults. BIPOC youth are overrepresented in the juvenile legal system, facing higher rates of referrals to court and adjudications for criminal offenses than their white counterparts, which further impacts their adult life.

Solution

Implement a bill calling for automatic expungement of most juvenile records at age 18.

Champion

TBD

Financial Capability for Youth in Foster Care

Young people in Washington state who are in Foster Care need access to financial literacy skills and a bank account at a young age, to help them be successful when they leave care. Without these resources, they can become trapped in a cycle of poverty.

Solution

Implement a bill that directs DCYF to establish bank accounts for foster youth ages 14+ and to provide a monthly allowance.

Champion

Senator Nobles

Extended Foster Care

Young people transition out of Foster Care and Extended Foster Care at a pivotal point in their life. In transitioning out of care they lose necessary support and resources they need to survive. This loss of resources has only been further impacted by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Solution

Continue financial assistance for youth who age out of Extended Foster Care through June 2023.

Champion

Senator Wilson

Join us virtually for Youth Advocacy Day on Friday, January 28th, 2022!