



Children should be the recipients of child support payments, not the state.

Re-Instate the Child Support Pass-Through

Support ESHB 1652 (Taylor)

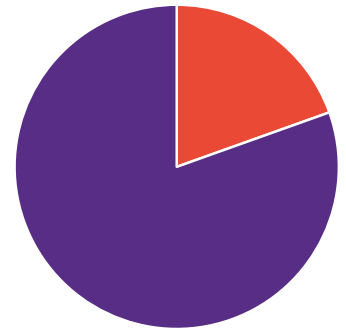
In Washington state, if a child's family receives Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and child support is paid by a non-custodial parent, **the state collects and withholds almost all of their child support payments.**

The Child Support Pass-Through was **eliminated** during the Great Recession and has **since only been partially reinstated**. The state currently allows \$50 for one child and \$100 for two or more children to pass through to families.

From July 2021 to August 2023, **DSHS collected \$46 million in child support** from families on TANF. **Families only received \$9 million** of those funds.

This means that **DSHS kept \$37 million in payments intended for children in deep poverty** in our state.

ESHB 1652 would allow 100% of child support payments to pass through to children as intended.



Research indicates that **passing through child support leads to increased child support compliance** by non-custodial parents **when they know the money will be supporting their children.**

Receiving child support payments from a non-custodial parent **reduces the risk of child maltreatment, greatly increases families' financial and housing security, and reduces toxic stress.**

Child support pass-through saves the state money by avoiding the child welfare system and giving parents a more stable foundation to break the cycle of poverty.