
SENATE BILL 6253

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Senators Loveland and Winsley

Read first time 01/18/94. Referred to Committee on Health & Human Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to county departments of family services; amending
2 RCW 13.04.035; adding a new section to chapter 36.39 RCW; and creating
3 a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that there is a need
6 to consolidate services for families and children within counties. The
7 legislature intends to authorize counties to create departments of
8 family services to serve as central community clearinghouses for
9 federal, state, and community issues and information, to provide
10 funding for family and children services, and to be a one-stop agency
11 for targeting services to families and children.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 36.39 RCW
13 to read as follows:

14 County legislative authorities may adopt resolutions or ordinances
15 authorizing departments of family services. Resolutions and ordinances
16 may require the following components for a department of family
17 services:

1 (1) Authorizing the county to select an administrator of the
2 department to serve at the pleasure of the county legislative
3 authority;

4 (2) Permitting the county legislative authority to assume probation
5 and detention services for juvenile offenders;

6 (3) Permitting the county legislative authority to establish a
7 baseline of detention services it intends to provide through the
8 department of family services, and authorizing the department to deny
9 detention or request reasonable payment for detention that exceeds the
10 baseline;

11 (4) Consolidation of services for families that are the
12 responsibility of the county into the department of family services,
13 including but not limited to immunization and other health services
14 such as mental health services, developmental disabilities services,
15 and alcohol and substance abuse services;

16 (5) Authority to accept grants and other funding that may be
17 available for family services through the federal or state government,
18 or from other sources; and

19 (6) Requiring the county department of family services to serve as
20 the county agency for cooperating with the state, schools, private
21 agencies, and others for coordinating community-based family services.

22 **Sec. 3.** RCW 13.04.035 and 1991 c 363 s 10 are each amended to read
23 as follows:

24 If a county does not create a department of family services under
25 section 2 of this act, juvenile court, probation counselor, and
26 detention services shall be administered by the superior court, except
27 that by local court rule and agreement with the legislative authority
28 of the county they may be administered by the legislative authority of
29 the county in the manner prescribed by RCW 13.20.060: PROVIDED, That
30 in any county with a population of one million or more, such services
31 shall be administered in accordance with chapter 13.20 RCW. The
32 administrative body shall appoint an administrator of juvenile court,
33 probation counselor, and detention services who shall be responsible
34 for day-to-day administration of such services, and who may also serve
35 in the capacity of a probation counselor. One person may, pursuant to

1 the agreement of more than one administrative body, serve as
2 administrator of more than one juvenile court.

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