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HOUSE BILL 2924

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State of Washington                      54th Legislature                      1996 Regular Session

By Representatives Sheahan and Smith

Read first time 01/26/96. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1            AN ACT Relating to discrimination; and adding new sections to  
2 chapter 49.60 RCW.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 49.60 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6            The legislature finds and declares that equal protection under the  
7 law is a fundamental principle of constitutional government essential  
8 to the well-being and perpetuation of a free society. Government  
9 entities in this state shall not practice discrimination prohibited by  
10 this chapter. Government entities in this state should review all  
11 employment practices to ensure that such discrimination does not occur.

12            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 49.60 RCW  
13 to read as follows:

14            Discrimination in the private sector is abhorrent to civilized  
15 society. Yet, seeking existing remedies for discrimination caused by  
16 either public or private entities is a difficult and lengthy process.  
17 The commission is authorized, notwithstanding the provisions of RCW  
18 49.60.240 and 49.60.250, to offer alternative dispute resolution to

- 1 provide remedies to those with claims of illegal discrimination and
- 2 minimize the lengthy and costly process of litigation.

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