

2 **ESSB 6547** - CONF REPT  
3 By Conference Committee

4 ADOPTED 3/9/94

5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the current  
8 complex set of rules and regulations, audited and administered at  
9 multiple levels of the mental health system, focus primarily on the  
10 process of providing mental health services and do not sufficiently  
11 address consumer and system outcomes. To this extent, the legislature  
12 finds that the intent of RCW 71.24.015 related to reduced  
13 administrative layering, duplication, and reduced administrative costs  
14 need much more aggressive action.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The department of social and health services  
16 shall establish a single comprehensive and collaborative project within  
17 regional support networks and with local mental health service  
18 providers aimed at creating innovative and streamlined community mental  
19 health service delivery systems, in order to carry out the purposes set  
20 forth in section 1 of this act and to capture the diversity of the  
21 community mental health service delivery system.

22 The project must accomplish the following:

23 (1) Identification, review, and cataloging of all rules,  
24 regulations, duplicative administrative and monitoring functions, and  
25 other requirements that currently lead to inefficiencies in the  
26 community mental health service delivery system and, if possible,  
27 eliminate the requirements;

28 (2) The systematic and incremental development of a single system  
29 of accountability for all appropriated funds used to provide mental  
30 health services. Assessment must be made regarding the feasibility of  
31 also including federal and local funds into the single system of  
32 accountability;

33 (3) The elimination of process regulations and related contract and  
34 reporting requirements. In place of the regulations and requirements,  
35 a set of outcomes for mental health adult and children clients

1 according to chapter 71.24 RCW must be used to measure the performance  
2 of mental health service providers and regional support networks. Such  
3 outcomes shall focus on stabilizing out-of-home and hospital care,  
4 increasing stable community living, increasing age-appropriate  
5 activities, achieving family and consumer satisfaction with services,  
6 and system efficiencies;

7 (4) Evaluation of the feasibility of contractual agreements between  
8 the department of social and health services and regional support  
9 networks and mental health service providers that link financial  
10 incentives to the success or failure of mental health service providers  
11 and regional support networks to meet outcomes established for mental  
12 health service clients;

13 (5) The involvement of mental health consumers and their  
14 representatives in the pilot projects. Mental health consumers and  
15 their representatives will be involved in the development of outcome  
16 standards for mental health clients and other related aspects of the  
17 pilot projects; and

18 (6) An independent evaluation component to measure the success of  
19 the projects.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The project established in section 2 of this  
21 act must be implemented by July 1, 1995, in at least two regional  
22 support networks, with annual progress reports submitted to the  
23 appropriate committees of the legislature beginning November 1, 1994,  
24 and in all regional support networks state-wide with full  
25 implementation of the most effective and efficient practices identified  
26 by the evaluation in section 2 of this act no later than July 1, 1997.  
27 In addition, the department of social and health services, the  
28 participating regional support networks, and the local mental health  
29 service providers shall report to the appropriate policy and fiscal  
30 committees of the legislature on the need for any changes in state  
31 statute, rule, policy, or procedure, and any change in federal statute,  
32 regulation, policy, or procedure to ensure the purposes specified in  
33 section 1 of this act are carried out.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** To carry out the purposes specified in  
35 section 1 of this act, the department of social and health services is  
36 encouraged to utilize its authority to immediately eliminate any  
37 unnecessary rules, regulations, standards, or contracts, to immediately

1 eliminate duplication of audits or any other unnecessarily duplicated  
2 functions, and to seek any waivers of federal or state rules or  
3 regulations necessary to achieve the purpose of streamlining the mental  
4 health system and infusing it with incentives that reward efficiency,  
5 positive outcomes for clients, and quality services.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 4 of this act are each  
7 added to chapter 71.24 RCW."

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11 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "accountability;" strike the  
12 remainder of the title and insert "and adding new sections to chapter  
13 71.24 RCW."

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