

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6408

AS PASSED SENATE, FEBRUARY 11, 1994

Brief Description: Including tribal authorities in mental health systems.

SPONSORS: Senators Spanel, Owen, Prentice, Sheldon, Fraser and Hargrove

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Majority Report: Do pass.

Signed by Senators Talmadge, Chairman; Wojahn, Vice Chairman; Franklin, Fraser, Hargrove, McAuliffe, Moyer, Niemi, Prentice, Quigley and Winsley.

Staff: Don Sloma (786-7319)

Hearing Dates: February 3, 1994

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

BACKGROUND:

Under current law, a county or a group of counties whose population is greater than 40,000 persons may enter a joint operating agreement to form a regional support network (RSN) to plan, organize and deliver mental health services according to a contract with the state Department of Social and Health Services.

Under current law, no statutory requirement exists for a tribal authority be party to such a joint operating agreement.

SUMMARY:

The term "tribal authority" includes a federally recognized Indian tribe or a major Indian organization recognized by the Secretary of Social and Health Services.

Upon their request, a tribal authority must be included as a party to a joint operating agreement to establish a regional support network. The joint operating agreement must include a determination of tribal authority membership on the governing board and advisory boards and must include provision for culturally competent services to the tribes served.

Appropriation: none

Revenue: none

Fiscal Note: available

TESTIMONY FOR:

The bill will improve coordination and access to mental health services for Indians in our state.

TESTIMONY AGAINST: None

TESTIFIED: Gabriel Landry, DSHS; David Hanig, DSHS; Randy Scott, Quinault Indian Nation, Colville Federated Tribes; Virginia Penn, Chehalis Tribe

HOUSE AMENDMENT(S):

A technical amendment is added to limit the definition of "tribal authority" only to those fitting the terms of the bill.