
HOUSE BILL 1827

State of Washington 53rd Legislature 1993 Regular Session

By Representatives Bray, Cooke, Ludwig, Leonard, Springer and King

Read first time 02/10/93. Referred to Committee on Human Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to regional service centers for the deaf;
2 reenacting and amending RCW 43.20A.360; and adding new sections to
3 chapter 43.20A RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature intends within available
6 resources to assure quality human services to enhance the lives of deaf
7 and hard of hearing people throughout the state by providing:

8 (1) Communication accessibility through interpreters and other
9 information services;

10 (2) Quality human services for deaf and hard of hearing citizens;

11 (3) Coordination among private and public agencies, the office of
12 deaf services, regions, and the deaf community; and

13 (4) Training and consultative services to public and private
14 agencies.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The following definitions apply throughout
16 sections 1 and 3 through 5 of this act:

1 "Deaf person" means a person with severe or complete absence of
2 auditory sensitivity whose primary effective receptive communication
3 mode is visual, tactile, or both.

4 "Hard of hearing person" means a person with:

5 (1) Some absence of auditory sensitivity who has residual hearing
6 that may be sufficient to produce linguistic information through
7 audition with or without amplification under favorable listening
8 conditions; or

9 (2) Other auditory handicapping conditions.

10 "Office" means the office of deaf services within the department.

11 "Regional advisory committee" means a group of persons who are
12 deaf, hard of hearing, or advocates and, by appointment or vote, are
13 delegated to represent the interest of the deaf community within a
14 region.

15 "Regional service center" means a community-based center located
16 within a region that provides service delivery to deaf and hard of
17 hearing individuals.

18 "State advisory committee" means the state advisory committee for
19 state programs for the deaf.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The state advisory committee for state
21 programs for the deaf shall consist of one representative of the office
22 of deaf services, one representative of each regional service center,
23 two representatives of each regional advisory committee, and other
24 members as designated by the secretary, who by appointment or vote, are
25 delegated to represent, in the development of programs, the interests
26 of the regional advisory committee, the office of deaf services, and
27 the regional service centers. Members of the state advisory committee
28 shall receive no compensation but shall be reimbursed for travel
29 expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

30 (2) The state advisory committee shall meet quarterly to discuss
31 and monitor the programs and activities of the regional service
32 centers. The committee shall quarterly report its findings along with
33 recommendations to the department through the office of deaf services.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) A regional service center shall be
35 established within each of the department's regions.

1 (2) Regional service centers shall meet criteria established by the
2 office of deaf services and hold articles of incorporation for
3 nonprofit organizations established by the secretary of state.

4 (3) Regional service centers shall establish advisory committees
5 for each region to meet regularly. Members of the regional advisory
6 committee for each regional service center shall be voting members of
7 the board of directors of the regional service center.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The office, in consultation with the state
9 advisory committee, shall recommend programs to and establish criteria
10 for regional service centers. The office shall award contracts to
11 qualified regional service centers representing the deaf and hard of
12 hearing population within each region.

13 **Sec. 6.** RCW 43.20A.360 and 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 s 214 and 1989 c 11
14 s 14 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

15 (1) The secretary is hereby authorized to appoint such advisory
16 committees or councils as may be required by any federal legislation as
17 a condition to the receipt of federal funds by the department. The
18 secretary may appoint state-wide committees or councils in the
19 following subject areas: (a) Health facilities; (b) children and youth
20 services; (c) blind services; (d) medical and health care; (e) deaf
21 services; ~~(f) drug abuse and alcoholism;~~ (g) social services;
22 ~~(g) economic services;~~ (h) vocational services; ~~(i)~~
23 (j) rehabilitative services; and on such other subject matters as are
24 or come within the department's responsibilities. The secretary shall
25 appoint committees or councils advisory to the department in each
26 service delivery region to be designated by the secretary. The
27 state-wide and the regional councils shall have representation from
28 both major political parties and shall have substantial consumer
29 representation and appropriate geographical representation. Such
30 committees or councils shall be constituted as required by federal law
31 or as the secretary in his or her discretion may determine. The
32 members of the committees or councils shall hold office for three years
33 except in the case of a vacancy, in which event appointment shall be
34 only for the remainder of the unexpired term for which the vacancy
35 occurs. No member shall serve more than two consecutive terms.

36 (2) Members of such state advisory committees or councils may be
37 paid their travel expenses in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and

1 43.03.060 as now existing or hereafter amended. Members of regional
2 advisory committees may, in the discretion of the secretary, be paid
3 the same travel expenses as set forth above.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Sections 1 through 5 of this act are each
5 added to chapter 43.20A RCW.

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