
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2163

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By House Committee on Human Services (originally sponsored by Representatives Ogden, Silver, Valle, Dunshee, Fuhrman, Carlson, H. Myers and Leonard; by request of Legislative Budget Committee)

Read first time 02/04/94.

1 AN ACT Relating to residential habilitation centers; adding new
2 sections to chapter 71A.20 RCW; creating new sections; and declaring an
3 emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 71A.20 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 The legislature recognizes that living in home and community-based
8 settings is most conducive to personal growth and independence for
9 people with developmental disabilities and is generally more cost-
10 effective than institutional care. The legislature also recognizes
11 that state institutions for people with developmental disabilities are
12 needed for special populations who require care, treatment, or
13 supervision that cannot be provided in a safe and cost-effective manner
14 in home and community-based settings. The legislature intends that the
15 residential habilitation centers shall develop into specialized
16 resources to assure public safety, provide assessments and treatment
17 plans for specialized disabling conditions, or provide specialized
18 support that cannot be provided in a cost-effective manner through home
19 or community-based services.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The secretary shall establish an appropriate
2 methodology, including use of a standardized assessment instrument, and
3 assess each current resident of a residential habilitation center. The
4 secretary shall analyze the data and report the score distributions and
5 appropriate summary information. In addition, for each assessment the
6 secretary shall:

7 (1) Identify the client-specific barriers to a community placement,
8 including:

9 (a) Parent or guardian opposition to a community placement;

10 (b) Significant risks to public safety if the resident moves to a
11 community placement;

12 (c) Significant risks to the resident's personal safety if the
13 resident moves to a community placement;

14 (d) Need for intensive medical services not available at reasonable
15 cost in a community placement;

16 (e) Need for other supports or supervision not available at
17 reasonable cost in a community placement; and

18 (f) Other client-specific barriers to a community placement.

19 (2) Analyze all placement options and comparable costs in order to
20 determine the most cost-effective type of placement in which the
21 resident can receive needed supports and services.

22 The secretary shall report the information required under this
23 section to the appropriate legislative committees by November 15, 1994.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 71A.20 RCW
25 to read as follows:

26 By December 15, 1994, the secretary shall transmit to the
27 appropriate legislative committees a plan on the recommended size and
28 services of each residential habilitation center as of the year 2001,
29 with milestones for each preceding fiscal year. The plan shall
30 include:

31 (1) Specific criteria for residence in a residential habilitation
32 center consistent with the intent of chapter --, Laws of 1994 (this
33 act);

34 (2) An estimate of the number of people who are expected to meet
35 the criteria for residence in a residential habilitation center;

36 (3) A plan with timelines and cost estimates for assuring safe,
37 cost-effective community care for the current residents who do not meet
38 residential habilitation center placement criteria;

1 (4) Proposed uses for excess residential habilitation center
2 grounds and buildings by other governmental or private entities in ways
3 that the proceeds will benefit people with developmental disabilities;
4 and

5 (5) Strategies to retrain and/or provide new jobs in developmental
6 disability community care or in other public service for any staff not
7 needed in the residential habilitation centers. The strategies shall
8 include but not be limited to options for development of cost-effective
9 publicly operated community-based residential and other support
10 services. The legislature recognizes the commitments that have been
11 made to the state-operated living arrangements.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** To assist in preparation of the plan
13 required under section 3 of this act, the secretary shall convene a
14 task force consisting of representatives from the advocacy round table,
15 developmental disabilities planning council, and state employee unions.
16 The task force shall advise and make recommendations to the secretary
17 on the plan and related issues for people with developmental
18 disabilities. To the extent possible, the task force shall examine
19 existing studies and data concerning service delivery and need by
20 geographic area, public and private capacity to deliver services,
21 funding mechanisms, reimbursement formulas, state regulations, and
22 other factors affecting costs and quality of services for people with
23 developmental disabilities.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate
25 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
26 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
27 effect immediately.

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