

2 **SSB 5768** - H COMM AMD **ADOPTED 4-10-97**
3 By Committee on Government Administration

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the rate of
8 unemployment among persons with developmental disabilities is high due
9 to the limited employment opportunities available to disabled persons.
10 Given that persons with disabilities are capable of filling employment
11 positions in the general work force population, supported employment is
12 an effective way of integrating such individuals into the general work
13 force population. The creation of supported employment programs can
14 increase the types and availability of employment positions for persons
15 with developmental disabilities.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Unless the context clearly requires
17 otherwise the definitions in this section apply throughout sections 3
18 through 5 of this act.

19 (1) "Developmental disability" means a disability as defined in RCW
20 71A.10.020.

21 (2) "Supported employment" means employment for individuals with
22 developmental disabilities who may require on-the-job training and
23 long-term support in order to fulfill their job duties successfully.
24 Supported employment offers the same wages and benefits as similar
25 nonsupported employment positions.

26 (3) "State agency" means any office, department, division, bureau,
27 board, commission, community college or institution of higher
28 education, or agency of the state of Washington.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** State agencies are encouraged to participate
30 in supported employment activities. The department of social and
31 health services, in conjunction with the department of personnel and
32 the office of financial management, shall identify agencies that have
33 positions and funding conducive to implementing supported employment.
34 An agency may only participate in supported employment activities

1 pursuant to this section if the agency is able to operate the program
2 within its existing budget. These agencies shall:

3 (1) Designate a coordinator who will be responsible for information
4 and resource referral regarding the agency's supported employment
5 program. The coordinator shall serve as a liaison between the agency
6 and the department of personnel regarding supported employment;

7 (2) Submit an annual update to the department of social and health
8 services, the department of personnel, and the office of financial
9 management. The annual update shall include: A description of the
10 agency's supported employment efforts, the number of persons placed in
11 supported employment positions, recommendations concerning expanding
12 the supported employment program to include people with mental
13 disabilities or other disabilities, and an overall evaluation of the
14 effectiveness of supported employment for the agency.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The department of social and health services
16 and the department of personnel shall, after consultation with
17 supported employment provider associations and other interested
18 parties, encourage, educate, and assist state agencies in implementing
19 supported employment programs. The department of personnel shall
20 provide human resources technical assistance to agencies implementing
21 supported employment programs. The department of personnel shall make
22 available, upon request of the legislature, an annual report that
23 evaluates the overall progress of supported employment in state
24 government.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The creation of supported employment
26 positions under sections 3 and 4 of this act shall not count against an
27 agency's allotted full-time equivalent employee positions. Supported
28 employment programs are not intended to displace employees or abrogate
29 any reduction-in-force rights.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 2 through 5 of this act are each
31 added to chapter 41.04 RCW."

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