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SENATE BILL 6702

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State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Senators Long, Hargrove, Stevens, Winsley and Oke

Read first time 01/28/98. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to treatment and housing for persons with both  
2 substance abuse problems and mental disorders; and creating a new  
3 section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Not later than January 1, 1999, the  
6 secretary of social and health services shall submit a plan by which  
7 the department of social and health services shall increase treatment  
8 and housing services to persons who have substance abuse problems and  
9 simultaneously have a mental disorder. The plan shall provide that not  
10 less than twenty percent of funds spent on treatment and housing for  
11 persons who abuse chemicals or alcohol be devoted to persons who are  
12 also diagnosed as having a mental disorder, with an emphasis on  
13 treatment and housing services for persons with a major mental  
14 disorder.

15 The plan shall be based on a model which incorporates an integrated  
16 approach to treatment and housing. As used in this section "integrated  
17 approach" means a program in which clinicians and appropriate staff are  
18 trained in mental health disorders and substance abuse problems and

1 provide simultaneous treatment for the disorders and problems in a  
2 setting designed for simultaneous treatment.

3 The plan shall require the secretary to make funding allocation  
4 decisions on research demonstrating successful outcomes for targeted  
5 persons. Programs funded according to the plan shall include  
6 appropriate outreach and monitoring of persons; safe living  
7 arrangements; flexibility of treatment and housing services; and a  
8 recognition of the potentially chronic nature of the disorders and  
9 problems.

10 The plan shall also identify methods of providing ongoing training  
11 for persons who deliver child protective services and child welfare  
12 services to persons who have substance abuse problems and  
13 simultaneously have a mental disorder and make referrals of dually  
14 diagnosed persons to treatment and housing services.

15 The plan shall include identification of state and federal  
16 statutory, fiscal, and regulatory barriers to improving the delivery of  
17 an integrated approach and recommendations for elimination of the  
18 barriers which are within the authority of the state.

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