

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5768

55th Legislature
1997 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate April 22, 1997
YEAS 45 NAYS 0

President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 10, 1997
YEAS 98 NAYS 0

**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Mike O Connell, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5768** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

Secretary

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5768

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 1997 Regular Session

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1997 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Commerce & Labor (originally sponsored by Senators Horn, Thibaudeau, Winsley, Anderson, Oke, McDonald, Wood, Fairley, Wojahn and Heavey)

Read first time 03/05/97.

1 AN ACT Relating to supported employment for persons with
2 developmental disabilities; adding new sections to chapter 41.04 RCW;
3 and creating a new section.

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

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

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

17 (1) "Developmental disability" means a disability as defined in RCW
18 71A.10.020.

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

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

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** State agencies are encouraged to participate
10 in supported employment activities. The department of social and
11 health services, in conjunction with the department of personnel and
12 the office of financial management, shall identify agencies that have
13 positions and funding conducive to implementing supported employment.
14 An agency may only participate in supported employment activities
15 pursuant to this section if the agency is able to operate the program
16 within its existing budget. These agencies shall:

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

21 (2) Submit an annual update to the department of social and health
22 services, the department of personnel, and the office of financial
23 management. The annual update shall include: A description of the
24 agency's supported employment efforts, the number of persons placed in
25 supported employment positions, recommendations concerning expanding
26 the supported employment program to include people with mental
27 disabilities or other disabilities, and an overall evaluation of the
28 effectiveness of supported employment for the agency.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The department of social and health services
30 and the department of personnel shall, after consultation with
31 supported employment provider associations and other interested
32 parties, encourage, educate, and assist state agencies in implementing
33 supported employment programs. The department of personnel shall
34 provide human resources technical assistance to agencies implementing
35 supported employment programs. The department of personnel shall make
36 available, upon request of the legislature, an annual report that

1 evaluates the overall progress of supported employment in state
2 government.

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

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

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