

HOUSE BILL ANALYSIS

HB 1691

Title: *An act relating to job retention and wage progression for WorkFirst participants; and amending RCW 74.08A.280 and 74.08A.410.*

Brief Description: *Considering job progression and wage retention for former and current recipients of temporary assistance for needy families.*

Sponsors: *Representatives Tokuda, Boldt, Kagi and Santos.*

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES

Meeting Date: *February 10, 1999.*

Bill Analysis Prepared by: *Dave Knutson (786-7146).*

Background: The temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) program moves recipients quickly into paid employment. Some recipients are placed in jobs that may be minimum wage or low wage. If the former recipient has difficulty retaining a job or progressing to higher paid employment, they may lose their job and reapply for TANF. The Department of Social and Health Services is required to prepare regional service plans for the operation of the TANF program.

Summary of Bill: The Department's regional plans will include provisions related to job retention services and wage progression services to current and former recipients of TANF. The Department will develop measurable wage goals for TANF recipients who go to work. The Department will also establish outcome measures related to wage progression history of former TANF recipients.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on February 2, 1999.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.