
HOUSE BILL 2807

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Representatives Kagi, Boldt, Wolfe, Ruderman, D. Sommers, Tokuda, Lovick, Kenney and Santos

Read first time 01/20/2000. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to authorizing blended funding projects for youth;
2 amending RCW 74.14A.020; adding a new section to chapter 74.14A RCW;
3 and providing an effective date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.14A.020 and 1994 sp.s. c 7 s 102 are each amended
6 to read as follows:

7 State efforts shall address the needs of children and their
8 families, including emotionally disturbed and mentally ill children,
9 potentially dependent children, and families-in-conflict by:

10 (1) Serving children and families as a unit in the least
11 restrictive setting available and in close proximity to the family
12 home, consistent with the best interests and special needs of the
13 child;

14 (2) Ensuring that appropriate social and health services are
15 provided to the family unit both prior to and during the removal of a
16 child from the home and after family reunification;

17 (3) Ensuring that the safety and best interests of the child are
18 the paramount considerations when making placement and service delivery
19 decisions;

1 (4) Recognizing the interdependent and changing nature of families
2 and communities, building upon their inherent strengths, maintaining
3 their dignity and respect, and tailoring programs to their specific
4 circumstances;

5 (5) Developing and implementing comprehensive, preventive, and
6 early intervention social and health services which have demonstrated
7 the ability to delay or reduce the need for out-of-home placements and
8 ameliorate problems before they become chronic or severe;

9 (6) Authorizing and facilitating blended funding for children who
10 require services and residential treatment from multiple services
11 systems; including education, child welfare services, mental health,
12 alcohol and drug, and juvenile rehabilitation;

13 (7) Being sensitive to the family and community culture, norms,
14 values, and expectations, ensuring that all services are provided in a
15 culturally appropriate and relevant manner, and ensuring participation
16 of racial and ethnic minorities at all levels of planning, delivery,
17 and evaluation efforts;

18 ((+7)) (8)(a) Developing coordinated social and health services
19 which:

20 (i) Identify problems experienced by children and their families
21 early and provide services which are adequate in availability,
22 appropriate to the situation, and effective;

23 (ii) Seek to bring about meaningful change before family situations
24 become irreversibly destructive and before disturbed psychological
25 behavioral patterns and health problems become severe or permanent;

26 (iii) Serve children and families in their own homes thus
27 preventing unnecessary out-of-home placement or institutionalization;

28 (iv) Focus resources on social and health problems as they begin to
29 manifest themselves rather than waiting for chronic and severe patterns
30 of illness, criminality, and dependency to develop which require long-
31 term treatment, maintenance, or custody;

32 (v) Reduce duplication of and gaps in service delivery;

33 (vi) Improve planning, budgeting, and communication among all units
34 of the department and among all agencies that serve children and
35 families; and

36 (vii) Utilize outcome standards for measuring the effectiveness of
37 social and health services for children and families.

1 (b) In developing services under this subsection, local communities
2 must be involved in planning and developing community networks that are
3 tailored to their unique needs.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 74.14A RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 The superintendent of public instruction and the secretary of the
7 department of social and health services shall transfer appropriated
8 funds to support blended funding projects for youth. To be eligible
9 for blended funding a child must be eligible for services designed to
10 address a behavioral, mental, emotional, or substance abuse issue from
11 the department of social and health services or a local school district
12 and require services from more than one categorical service delivery
13 system.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If any provision of this act or its
15 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
16 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
17 persons or circumstances is not affected.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act takes effect July 1, 2000.

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