
HOUSE BILL 2853

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Representatives Wolfe, D. Schmidt, Romero, Cairnes, Haigh and Cody;
by request of Department of Services for the Blind

Read first time 01/21/2000. Referred to Committee on Children & Family
Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to the rehabilitation council for the blind; and
2 amending RCW 74.18.070, 74.18.080, 74.18.090, and 74.18.100.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.18.070 and 1983 c 194 s 7 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) There is hereby created the ~~((advisory))~~ rehabilitation council
7 for the blind. ~~((The advisory council shall consist of at least six
8 and no more than ten members.))~~ The rehabilitation council shall
9 consist of the minimum number of voting members to meet the
10 requirements of the rehabilitation council required under the federal
11 rehabilitation act of 1973 as now or hereafter amended. A majority of
12 the voting members shall be blind. ((Advisory)) Rehabilitation council
13 members shall be residents of the state of Washington, ((and no member
14 shall be an employee of the department)) and shall represent the
15 categories of membership specified in the federal rehabilitation act of
16 1973 as now or hereafter amended. The director of the department of
17 services for the blind shall be an ex officio, nonvoting member.

18 (2) The governor shall appoint members of the ~~((advisory))~~
19 rehabilitation council for terms of three years, except that the

1 initial appointments shall be as follows: (a) Three members for terms
2 of three years; (b) two members for terms of two years; and (c) other
3 members for terms of one year. Vacancies in the membership of the
4 ((~~advisory~~)) rehabilitation council shall be filled by the governor for
5 the remainder of the unexpired term.

6 (3) The governor may remove members of the ((~~advisory~~))
7 rehabilitation council for cause.

8 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.18.080 and 1983 c 194 s 8 are each amended to read
9 as follows:

10 (1) The ((~~advisory~~)) rehabilitation council for the blind shall
11 meet officially with the director of the department quarterly to
12 perform the duties enumerated in RCW 74.18.090. Additional meetings of
13 the ((~~advisory~~)) rehabilitation council may be convened at the call of
14 the chairperson or of a majority of the members. The ((~~advisory~~))
15 rehabilitation council shall elect a chairperson from among its members
16 for a term of one year or until a successor has been elected.

17 (2) ((~~Advisory~~)) Rehabilitation council members shall receive
18 reimbursement for travel expenses incurred in the performance of their
19 official duties in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

20 **Sec. 3.** RCW 74.18.090 and 1983 c 194 s 9 are each amended to read
21 as follows:

22 The ((~~advisory~~)) rehabilitation council for the blind may:

23 (1) Provide counsel to the director in developing, reviewing,
24 ((~~and~~)) making recommendations, and agreeing on the department's state
25 plan for vocational rehabilitation, budget requests, permanent rules
26 concerning services to blind citizens, and other major policies which
27 impact the quality or quantity of services for the blind;

28 (2) Undertake annual reviews with the director of the needs of
29 blind citizens, the effectiveness of the services and priorities of the
30 department to meet those needs, and the measures that could be taken to
31 improve the department's services;

32 (3) Annually make recommendations to the governor and the
33 legislature on issues related to the department of services for the
34 blind, other state agencies, or state laws which have a significant
35 effect on the opportunities, services, or rights of blind citizens;
36 ((~~and~~))

1 (4) Advise and make recommendations to the governor on the criteria
2 and qualifications pertinent to the selection of the director;

3 (5) Perform additional functions as required by the federal
4 rehabilitation act of 1973 as now or hereafter amended.

5 **Sec. 4.** RCW 74.18.100 and 1983 c 194 s 10 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 It shall be the duty of the director to consult in a timely manner
8 with the ((~~advisory~~)) rehabilitation council for the blind on the
9 matters enumerated in RCW 74.18.090. The director shall provide
10 appropriate departmental resources for the use of the ((~~advisory~~))
11 rehabilitation council in conducting its official business.

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