

5693-S

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Wojahn, McDonald, Deccio, Thibaudeau, Roach, Winsley, Oke, Rasmussen, Prentice and Costa)

Brief Title: Establishing the developmental disabilities endowment trust fund.

SB 5693-S.E - DIGEST

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Recognizes that the main and most enduring support for persons with developmental disabilities, along with public resources, is their immediate and extended families.

Recognizes that these families are searching for ways to provide for the long-term continuing care of their disabled family member when the family can no longer provide that care.

Declares an intent to encourage and assist families to engage in long-range financial planning and to contribute to the lifetime care of their disabled family member. To further these objectives, this chapter is enacted to finance long-term care for persons with developmental disabilities through an endowment funded jointly by the investment of public funds and dedicated family contributions.

VETO MESSAGE ON SB 5693-S

May 18, 1999

To the Honorable President and Members,
The Senate of the State of Washington
Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning herewith, without my approval as to sections 3 and 6, Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 5693 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to establishing a public/private endowment for developmental disabilities services;"

Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 5693 creates a developmental disabilities fund that is funded through private contributions and state appropriations. Its intent is to encourage and assist families engaging in long-range financial planning for the lifetime care of family members with disabilities by seeking private contributions to a state managed endowment.

While I agree with this intent and understand the desire of parents to make sure that they have planned for the lifetime care of a family member with disabilities, there are many fundamental policy issues unanswered in this bill: