
HOUSE BILL 1824

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By Representatives Pettigrew, Miloscia, Kagi, Darneille and Schual-Berke

Read first time 02/11/2003. Referred to Committee on Juvenile Justice & Family Law.

1 AN ACT Relating to developing criteria to ensure quality control in
2 research-based treatment programs for juveniles; and creating new
3 sections.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

6 (a) Recent studies suggest that research-based treatment programs,
7 such as aggression replacement therapy and functional family therapy,
8 used within the juvenile justice system reduces recidivism rates only
9 if such programs are delivered competently; and

10 (b) When research-based treatment programs are delivered
11 competently, they ultimately save the state more money than they cost
12 to run.

13 (2) Therefore, the legislature declares that:

14 (a) Ensuring competence within research-based treatment programs is
15 necessary for juveniles to receive the optimal chance at rehabilitation
16 and for the state to get the highest rate of return on its money;

17 (b) Ensuring competency within research-based treatment programs
18 includes, but is not limited to, finding and hiring qualified

1 providers, training and continually educating providers, managing and
2 overseeing the delivery of treatment services, and retaining quality
3 providers; and

4 (c) Effective quality control within research-based treatment
5 programs is vital to making these programs work.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** In order to establish a specific measuring
7 tool that state agencies in the juvenile justice system can use to
8 ensure quality control and competent delivery of research-based
9 treatment services to youth, the Washington state institute for public
10 policy shall develop general criteria designed to ensure adherence to
11 proven practices in research-based treatment programs. For the
12 purposes of determining funding, the legislature may require an agency
13 to demonstrate how it has met the criteria. The criteria shall include
14 measures for ongoing and accurate monitoring and tracking of competent
15 treatment delivery and for continual improvement of treatment delivery.
16 The criteria must be developed and presented to the legislature by
17 January 1, 2004.

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