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ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2550

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State of Washington                      58th Legislature                      2004 Regular Session

By House Committee on Children & Family Services (originally sponsored by Representative Boldt)

READ FIRST TIME 02/03/04.

1            AN ACT Relating to community-based and faith-based social services  
2 organizations; and adding a new section to chapter 43.20A RCW.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.20A RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6            (1) The secretary shall designate a person within each of the  
7 department's administrative regions to serve as a liaison for  
8 community-based and faith-based social services organizations,  
9 regardless of denomination. The liaison shall be available to such  
10 organizations for the purpose of:

11            (a) Providing information as it relates to opportunities for such  
12 organizations to cooperate with the department in providing community  
13 services throughout the state;

14            (b) Identifying areas of need that are not currently being met in  
15 the state that community-based and faith-based social services  
16 organizations may provide;

17            (c) Coordinating efforts to promote involvement of community-based  
18 and faith-based social service organizations in providing community  
19 services.

1           (2) The secretary shall include provisions in its contracts  
2 indicating that community-based and faith-based social services  
3 organizations that receive funds from the department must not:

4           (a) Engage in discrimination that denies service to a potential  
5 client on the basis of age, gender, race, sexual orientation, national  
6 origin, creed, religion, or presence of a disability; or

7           (b) Engage in activities that promote conversion to a particular  
8 faith, institution, or cause, unless participation in those activities  
9 is voluntary.

10          (3) The department shall achieve the purposes of this section  
11 through existing resources.

12          (4) By January 1, 2005, and annually for the four years thereafter,  
13 the department shall report to the appropriate committees of the  
14 legislature on the activities of the liaisons, including identification  
15 of the community-based and faith-based organizations served.

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