
ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 6692

State of Washington

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2004 Regular Session

By Senators Stevens, Hargrove, McAuliffe, Parlette, Eide, Schmidt, Deccio, Kastama, Regala, Sheahan, Rasmussen and Shin

Read first time 01/30/2004. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to the definition of out-of-home placement; and
2 amending RCW 74.14C.030.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.14C.030 and 1996 c 240 s 4 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The department shall be the lead administrative agency for
7 preservation services and may receive funding from any source for the
8 implementation or expansion of such services. The department shall:

9 (a) Provide coordination and planning with the advice of the
10 community networks for the implementation and expansion of preservation
11 services; and

12 (b) Monitor and evaluate such services to determine whether the
13 programs meet measurable standards specified by this chapter and the
14 department.

15 (2) The department may: (a) Allow its contractors for preservation
16 services to use paraprofessional workers when the department and
17 provider determine the use appropriate. The department may also use
18 paraprofessional workers, as appropriate, when the department provides

1 preservation services; and (b) allow follow-up to be provided, on an
2 individual case basis, when the department and provider determine the
3 use appropriate.

4 (3) In carrying out the requirements of this section, the
5 department shall consult with qualified agencies that have demonstrated
6 expertise and experience in preservation services.

7 (4) The department may provide preservation services directly and
8 shall, within available funds, enter into outcome-based, competitive
9 contracts with social service agencies to provide preservation
10 services, provided that such agencies meet measurable standards
11 specified by this chapter and by the department. The standards shall
12 include, but not be limited to, satisfactory performance in the
13 following areas:

14 (a) The number of families appropriately connected to community
15 resources;

16 (b) Avoidance of new referrals accepted by the department for child
17 protective services or family reconciliation services within one year
18 of the most recent case closure by the department;

19 (c) Consumer satisfaction;

20 (d) For reunification cases, reduction in the length of stay in
21 out-of-home placement; and

22 (e) Reduction in the level of risk factors specified by the
23 department.

24 (5)(a) The department shall not provide intensive family
25 preservation services unless it is demonstrated that provision of such
26 services prevent (~~out-of-home~~) placement in a foster family home or
27 group care facility licensed pursuant to chapter 74.15 RCW in at least
28 seventy percent of the out-of-home placement cases served for a period
29 of at least six months following termination of services. The
30 department's caseworkers may only provide preservation services if
31 there is no other qualified entity willing or able to do so.

32 (b) Contractors shall demonstrate that provision of intensive
33 family preservation services prevent (~~out-of-home~~) placement in a
34 foster family home or group care facility licensed pursuant to chapter
35 74.15 RCW in at least seventy percent of the out-of-home placement
36 cases served for a period of no less than six months following
37 termination of services. The department may increase the period of
38 time based on additional research and data. If the contractor fails to

1 meet the seventy percent requirement the department may: (i) Review
2 the conditions that may have contributed to the failure to meet the
3 standard and renew the contract if the department determines: (A) The
4 contractor is making progress to meet the standard; or (B) conditions
5 unrelated to the provision of services, including case mix and severity
6 of cases, contributed to the failure; or (ii) reopen the contract for
7 other bids.

8 (c) The department shall cooperate with any person who has a
9 contract under this section in providing data necessary to determine
10 the amount of reduction in foster care. For the purposes of this
11 subsection "prevent out-of-home placement" means that a child who has
12 been a recipient of intensive family preservation services has not been
13 placed outside of the home in a foster family home or group care
14 facility licensed pursuant to chapter 74.15 RCW, other than for a
15 single, temporary period of time not exceeding fourteen days.

16 (6) The department shall adopt rules to implement this chapter.

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