
HOUSE BILL 1833

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2005 Regular Session

By Representatives Kagi, Hinkle, Conway, Walsh, Kenney, Chase, Pettigrew, Appleton, Upthegrove, Morrell, Simpson, Haler and Santos

Read first time 02/08/2005. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to job training and placement services; amending
2 RCW 74.08A.280; adding a new section to chapter 28C.18 RCW; and adding
3 a new chapter to Title 43 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that assisting
6 recipients of the WorkFirst program and other individuals who are
7 seeking jobs with job training and job placement services is critical
8 to supporting the self-sufficiency of families as well as the economic
9 well-being of the state. Job training and placement services are
10 currently offered through multiple agencies and programs, each with
11 their own eligibility requirements and funding sources.

12 The legislature intends to improve the efficiency and effectiveness
13 of job training and placement services for recipients of the WorkFirst
14 program and other individuals who are seeking jobs by integrating the
15 delivery of those services in communities across the state.

16 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.08A.280 and 1997 c 58 s 315 are each amended to
17 read as follows:

18 (1) The legislature finds that moving those eligible for assistance

1 to self-sustaining employment is a goal of the WorkFirst program. It
2 is the intent of WorkFirst to aid a participant's progress to self-
3 sufficiency by allowing flexibility within the statewide program to
4 reflect community resources, the local characteristics of the labor
5 market, and the composition of the caseload. Program success will be
6 enhanced through effective coordination at regional and local levels,
7 involving employers, labor representatives, educators, community
8 leaders, local governments, and social service providers.

9 (2) The department, through its regional offices, shall collaborate
10 with employers, recipients, frontline workers, educational
11 institutions, labor, (~~(private industry councils)~~) local work force
12 investment boards, the work force training and education coordinating
13 board, community rehabilitation employment programs, employment and
14 training agencies, local governments, the employment security
15 department, and community action agencies to develop work programs that
16 are effective and work in their communities. For planning purposes,
17 the department shall collect and make accessible to regional offices
18 successful work program models from around the United States, including
19 the employment partnership program, apprenticeship programs,
20 microcredit, microenterprise, self-employment, and W-2 Wisconsin works.
21 Work programs shall incorporate local volunteer citizens in their
22 planning and implementation phases to ensure community relevance and
23 success.

24 (3) To reduce administrative costs and to ensure equal statewide
25 access to services, the department may develop contracts for statewide
26 welfare-to-work services. These statewide contracts shall support
27 regional flexibility and ensure that resources follow local labor
28 market opportunities and recipients' needs.

29 (4) The secretary shall establish WorkFirst service areas for
30 purposes of planning WorkFirst programs and for distributing WorkFirst
31 resources. Service areas shall reflect department regions.

32 (5) By July 31st of each odd-numbered year, a plan for the
33 WorkFirst program shall be developed for each region. The plan shall
34 be prepared in consultation with local and regional sources, adapting
35 the statewide WorkFirst program to achieve maximum effect for the
36 participants and the communities within which they reside. Local
37 consultation shall include to the greatest extent possible input from
38 local and regional planning bodies for social services and work force

1 development. The regional and local administrator shall consult with
2 employers of various sizes, labor representatives, training and
3 education providers, program participants, economic development
4 organizations, community organizations, tribes, and local governments
5 in the preparation of the service area plan.

6 (6) Regional plans shall specify how the job training and placement
7 services provided through the WorkFirst program and the job training
8 and placement services under P.L. 105-220, or its successor, are to be
9 integrated.

10 (7) The secretary has final authority in plan approval or
11 modification. Regional program implementation may deviate from the
12 statewide program if specified in a service area plan, as approved by
13 the secretary.

14 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 28C.18 RCW
15 to read as follows:

16 The board shall include in its planning requirements for local work
17 force investment boards a requirement that local work force investment
18 boards specify how the job training and placement services under P.L.
19 105-220, or its successor, and the job training and placement services
20 provided through the WorkFirst program are to be integrated.

21 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. (1) An incentive program is established in
22 the governor's office for integrating the delivery of job training and
23 placement services for recipients of the WorkFirst program and other
24 individuals who are seeking jobs.

25 (2) Local work force investment boards may apply, in partnership
26 with the WorkFirst program and other partners in the one-stop system,
27 to receive funding under the incentive program. In applying for
28 funding, the local work force investment boards shall clearly
29 demonstrate the approach to integration of job training and placement
30 services that they will undertake.

31 (3) Funding awards under the incentive program shall be made to
32 local work force investment boards for twelve-month periods. In making
33 decisions concerning renewal of funding, which may include adjustments
34 in the level of funding, consideration shall be given to the following
35 criteria:

36 (a) Implementation of the identified integration approach; and

1 (b) Performance with respect to the following outcomes for the
2 population served: Rate of employment; and level of earnings.

3 (4) The governor shall provide funding for the incentive program
4 from WorkFirst program funds and work force investment act funds.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 4 of this act constitute
6 a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.

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