
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2190

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By House Committee on Children & Family Services (originally sponsored by Representatives Kagi, Darneille, Morrell, O'Brien and Kenney)

READ FIRST TIME 03/04/05.

1 AN ACT Relating to planning for the residential care needs of
2 individuals with developmental disabilities; and creating new sections.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the staff and
5 volunteers at the state's residential habilitation centers and in
6 community residential settings provide compassionate, skilled care to
7 persons with developmental disabilities. The legislature also finds
8 that nationally there has been a decline in the number of residents in
9 states' institutions for individuals with developmental disabilities as
10 the demand for services has shifted from institutions to community
11 settings. In Washington state, just over one thousand one hundred
12 residents currently live in the state's residential habilitation
13 centers, down from a high of four thousand residents in 1967.

14 The legislature recognizes that the continuing decline in the
15 number of residents and the capital investments required by aging
16 facilities has resulted in increased costs to serve the residents
17 remaining at the state's residential habilitation centers. In order to
18 address this situation, the legislature intends to establish a

1 mechanism for determining how best to meet the residential care needs
2 of citizens of this state with developmental disabilities.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A commission is hereby created in the
4 governor's office to review the need for and existing capacity of
5 residential services, including residential habilitation centers and
6 community residential settings, that serve individuals with
7 developmental disabilities in Washington state. The commission shall
8 develop a plan for meeting the residential care needs of these
9 individuals. The commission shall take into consideration the research
10 conducted by the joint legislative audit and review committee relating
11 to the state's residential habilitation centers.

12 (1) In developing the residential plan, the commission shall
13 consider, at a minimum, the following factors:

14 (a) The needs of individuals currently being served in residential
15 habilitation centers or community residential programs;

16 (b) Staff expertise and specialization of care at existing
17 facilities;

18 (c) Utilization level of existing residential habilitation centers;

19 (d) Capacity for growth of each of the existing residential
20 habilitation centers and community residential programs;

21 (e) The relative costs and benefits of serving individuals in
22 residential habilitation centers and community residential programs;

23 (f) The geographic factors associated with each residential
24 habilitation center and its proximity to dense populations as well as
25 other similar facilities; and

26 (g) Costs and savings related to the consolidation or closure, or
27 both, of residential habilitation centers.

28 (2) The commission shall consist of thirteen members as follows:

29 (a) One representative each of the governor's office, the office of
30 financial management, the department of social and health services, and
31 the Washington state developmental disabilities council, appointed by
32 the governor;

33 (b) One representative of organized labor, appointed by the
34 governor;

35 (c) One representative of community residential care providers,
36 appointed by the governor;

1 (d) One representative of an advocacy organization for residents of
2 residential habilitation centers and their families, and one
3 representative of an advocacy organization for individuals served in
4 community residential programs and their families, appointed by the
5 governor;

6 (e) One individual with a developmental disability who is or has
7 been a resident in a residential habilitation center and who is being
8 or has been served in a community residential program, appointed by the
9 governor; and

10 (f) Two members of the house of representatives appointed by the
11 speaker of the house of representatives, one of whom shall be a member
12 of the majority caucus and one of whom shall be a member of the
13 minority caucus, and two members of the senate appointed by the
14 president of the senate, one of whom shall be a member of the majority
15 caucus and one of whom shall be a member of the minority caucus. The
16 legislative members of the commission shall be ex officio, nonvoting
17 members.

18 (3) The commission shall select a chairperson from among its
19 members.

20 (4) Legislative members of the commission shall be reimbursed for
21 travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120. Nonlegislative
22 members, except those representing an employer or organization, are
23 entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with RCW
24 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

25 (5) The commission shall provide its residential plan to the
26 governor and the appropriate committees of the legislature by January
27 1, 2006.

--- END ---