
HOUSE BILL 2397

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2006 Regular Session

By Representatives Dickerson, Williams, Moeller, Hasegawa, Darneille, Morrell, Wallace, Flannigan, Green, Miloscia and B. Sullivan

Prefiled 12/29/2005. Read first time 01/09/2006. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a pilot program to facilitate
2 delivery of evidence-based practice mental health treatment to
3 children; and adding a new section to chapter 71.24 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 71.24 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) To the extent funding is appropriated in the operating budget,
8 the department shall establish a pilot program to support collaborative
9 local efforts to select, implement, and ensure quality evidence-based
10 mental health services provided to children by December 2006.

11 (a) The program sites shall be selected through a request for
12 proposal process which shall begin by July 2006. The pilot program
13 shall consist of four sites, with at least one site located in eastern
14 Washington.

15 (b) The request for proposal shall include the specific criteria
16 listed in subsection (2) of this section, in order to qualify for the
17 pilot program. The request for proposal shall include a list of
18 examples of specific evidence-based mental health service options from

1 which pilot program sites may choose as the mental health service or
2 services they will deliver.

3 (2) Any county, or group of counties, may submit a proposal to be
4 selected as a pilot site. In order to be considered for a pilot site,
5 the proposal shall demonstrate how the site will meet the following
6 criteria. The proposal shall:

7 (a) Designate the lead agency for the program. The lead agency is
8 not required to be a state agency or a regional support network. The
9 lead agency may be any public or private agency capable of meeting the
10 requirements of this section;

11 (b) Describe how the lead agency shall work with community partners
12 to implement the pilot program activities described in this section.
13 The proposal shall specifically identify the community partners with
14 whom the agency will be collaborating and the role of the partners.
15 The community partners must include, at a minimum, representatives of
16 the local mental health, juvenile justice, and child welfare systems,
17 as well as representatives of families of children in need of mental
18 health services. Community partners may, but are not required to,
19 include representatives from other child-serving systems such as health
20 care and education;

21 (c) Identify the areas of potential need based upon input from the
22 community partners;

23 (d) Identify the evidence-based mental health service or services
24 that will be implemented in the area served by the pilot program based
25 upon community needs and resources. The service or services to be
26 provided must be selected from a list of evidence-based service options
27 provided by the department. The department may consider expanding the
28 list of service options to include promising practices, in addition to
29 evidence-based practices, after evidence-based services have been
30 established;

31 (e) Identify the resources within the community that might support
32 training for the implementation of the selected evidence-based service
33 or services; and

34 (f) Identify resources within the community that are able to
35 support quality assurance activities to monitor fidelity to the
36 evidence-based service or services that are implemented, and track
37 outcomes for children receiving those services.

1 (3) The department shall utilize the University of Washington
2 school of medicine's department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences
3 division of public behavioral health and justice to provide support and
4 assistance in all phases of the pilot program including initiating,
5 implementing, and monitoring the pilot program.

6 (4) Beginning in July 2007, the Washington state institute for
7 public policy shall conduct a study of the pilot program measuring
8 improvements in the delivery of mental health services to children.
9 The institute shall issue a report containing its preliminary findings
10 to the legislature by December 1, 2007, and a final report by December
11 1, 2008.

12 (5) Implementation of this program is subject to the availability
13 of funds.

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