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HOUSE BILL 2911

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State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Representatives Green, Appleton, Woods, Flannigan, Cody, Roberts, Moeller, Morrell, Haigh, Conway, Lantz, Eickmeyer and Darneille

Read first time 01/16/2006. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a pilot project in alternative case  
2 management; creating new sections; and making an appropriation.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

5 (1) An alternative case management model, program for assertive  
6 community treatment, has been used in many other states in the last  
7 thirty years;

8 (2) Program for assertive community treatment uses  
9 multidisciplinary teams of mental health professionals who provide  
10 comprehensive care and services to people in the community with serious  
11 and persistent mental health issues;

12 (3) Rather than have a single case manager who has to provide the  
13 client links to a range of services, the team of professionals works  
14 with the client on a twenty-four/seven basis and provides all the  
15 necessary services through team members;

16 (4) Studies have shown that such an alternative case management  
17 approach has reduced hospitalization, homelessness, and criminal  
18 incarceration, thus improving the lives of clients and also reducing  
19 overall government and social costs;

1 (5) In recent years there has been a small program for assertive  
2 community treatment project in Clark county;

3 (6) Initial studies indicate that the project is successful in  
4 getting clients help they need, and also in reducing overall  
5 governmental costs; and

6 (7) More extensive examination of this model is necessary to  
7 determine if it has wider applicability in Washington state.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) By September 1, 2006, the department of  
9 social and health services shall establish a pilot project in  
10 alternative case management, using program for assertive community  
11 treatment teams, in one urban regional support network and one rural  
12 regional support network in the state.

13 (2) The department shall adopt program standards for the pilot  
14 project based on national program standards for assertive community  
15 treatment teams. The standards shall include:

- 16 (a) Admission and discharge criteria;
- 17 (b) Staff requirements;
- 18 (c) Service intensity and capacity;
- 19 (d) Required services;
- 20 (e) Performance improvement and program evaluation; and
- 21 (f) Other program requirements as deemed appropriate by the  
22 department.

23 (3) The department shall submit to the appropriate committees of  
24 the legislature an evaluation of the pilot project by January 1, 2008.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The sum of . . . . . dollars, or as much  
26 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium ending  
27 June 30, 2007, from the general fund to the department of social and  
28 health services for the purposes of this act.

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