
SENATE BILL 5047

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Senator Regala; by request of Office of Financial Management

Read first time 01/12/2005. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to cost-effective prevention and early intervention
2 programs; and adding a new chapter to Title 43 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The definitions in this section apply
5 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

6 (1) "Cost-effective" means that cost savings to taxpayers realized
7 over a reasonable period of time are greater than costs to taxpayers.

8 (2) "Council" means the prevention quality council created in
9 section 2 of this act.

10 (3) "Evidence-based program" means a program that (a) incorporates
11 significant and relevant practices based on scientifically based
12 research and (b) is cost-effective.

13 (4) "Institute" means the Washington state institute for public
14 policy, created by the legislature in 1983.

15 (5) "Prevention and early intervention programs" means programs
16 that are intended, through activities involving persons under eighteen
17 years of age, to prevent or reduce the future likelihood of any of the
18 following outcomes:

19 (a) Commission of crime;

- 1 (b) Abuse of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs;
- 2 (c) Failure to graduate from high school;
- 3 (d) Pregnancy or parenting before age eighteen;
- 4 (e) Suicide or attempted suicide;
- 5 (f) Child abuse or neglect, as either victim or perpetrator;
- 6 (g) Domestic violence as defined in chapter 10.99 RCW; or
- 7 (h) Other adverse outcomes identified by the council.

8 (6) "Scientifically based research" means research that obtains
9 reliable and valid knowledge by:

10 (a) Employing systematic, empirical methods that draw on
11 observation or experiment;

12 (b) Involving rigorous data analyses that are adequate to test the
13 stated hypotheses and justify the general conclusions drawn; and

14 (c) Relying on measurements or observational methods that provide
15 reliable and valid data across evaluators and observers, across
16 multiple measurements and observations, and across studies by the same
17 or different investigators.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1)(a) The prevention quality council is
19 created. The council shall consist of nine members as follows: The
20 director of the office of financial management; the superintendent of
21 public instruction; the secretary of the department of social and
22 health services; the secretary of the department of health; the
23 secretary of corrections; and four members of the legislature, one of
24 whom is appointed by the chair of each of the two largest political
25 caucuses of the senate and house of representatives, from among the
26 members of the committees having jurisdiction over the omnibus
27 operating budget.

28 (b) The council shall select its chair from among the members, and
29 may select such other officers as its members deem necessary.

30 (2) Members of the council shall serve without additional
31 compensation, but legislative members shall be reimbursed for travel
32 expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120 while attending sessions of
33 the council or on official business authorized by the council.
34 Nonlegislative members of the council shall be reimbursed for travel
35 expenses in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

36 (3) The office of financial management shall provide staff services
37 to the council.

1 (4) The council shall contract with the institute to conduct
2 research required under this chapter and report its findings to the
3 council and the public.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The council shall meet at least annually to:

- 5 (1) Identify state agencies operating or funding prevention
6 programs;
- 7 (2) Review research findings and recommendations of the institute;
- 8 (3) Identify gaps in available research and make recommendations to
9 the legislature regarding areas that should be prioritized for future
10 research investments;
- 11 (4) Certify, by affirmative vote of at least six members, evidence-
12 based prevention programs for state funding; and
- 13 (5) Recommend legislation modifying duties and services of state
14 agencies as necessary to achieve the purposes of this chapter.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The institute, by contract with the council,
16 shall:

- 17 (1) Review evaluation and other research to identify evidence-based
18 programs, whether operating in this state or elsewhere;
- 19 (2) Estimate and compare the cost-effectiveness of prevention
20 programs;
- 21 (3) Periodically update its findings based on new or updated
22 research;
- 23 (4) Periodically review operations of certified evidence-based
24 programs for fidelity to designs and models on which certification was
25 based; and
- 26 (5) Perform other research and analyses related to the purposes of
27 this chapter as the council or the legislature may direct, subject to
28 available funding.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** State agencies identified by the council as
30 operating or funding prevention programs shall:

- 31 (1) Submit biennial reports to the council containing:
 - 32 (a) A description of each prevention program on which the agency
33 expends state funds, including but not limited to whether the program
34 is an evidence-based program; and

1 (b) The percentage of state funds the agency receives for
2 prevention programs that is being expended on evidence-based programs;
3 and

4 (2) Spend not less than the percentages of state funds specified in
5 this section on certified evidence-based programs in the fiscal years
6 specified:

- 7 (a) Fifty percent in fiscal year 2007;
- 8 (b) Sixty percent in fiscal year 2008; and
- 9 (c) Seventy percent in fiscal year 2009 and thereafter.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This chapter shall be known as the
11 prevention and early intervention quality and accountability act.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** If any provision of this act or its
13 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
14 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
15 persons or circumstances is not affected.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Sections 1 through 7 of this act constitute
17 a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.

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