HOUSE BILL 1246

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Representatives McCoy, Darneille, Dickerson, Ahern, Kenney and Moeller; by request of Department of Social and Health Services

Read first time 01/15/2007. Referred to Committee on Human Services.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to residential services and support enforcement
- 2 standards; reenacting RCW 71A.12.270; creating a new section; and
- 3 recodifying RCW 71A.12.270.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 5 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** It is the intent of the legislature for
- 6 enforcement standards to apply to all residential services and support
- 7 providers.
- 8 **Sec. 2.** RCW 71A.12.270 and 2006 c 303 s 8 are each reenacted to
- 9 read as follows:
- 10 (1) The department is authorized to take one or more of the
- 11 enforcement actions listed in subsection (2) of this section when the
- 12 department finds that a provider of residential services and support
- 13 with whom the department entered into an agreement under this chapter
- 14 has:
- 15 (a) Failed or refused to comply with the requirements of this
- 16 chapter or the rules adopted under it;
- 17 (b) Failed or refused to cooperate with the certification process;

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- 1 (c) Prevented or interfered with a certification, inspection, or investigation by the department;
 - (d) Failed to comply with any applicable requirements regarding vulnerable adults under chapter 74.34 RCW; or
 - (e) Knowingly, or with reason to know, made a false statement of material fact related to certification or contracting with the department, or in any matter under investigation by the department.
 - (2) The department may:

- (a) Decertify or refuse to renew the certification of a provider;
- (b) Impose conditions on a provider's certification status;
- (c) Suspend department referrals to the provider; or
- (d) Require a provider to implement a plan of correction developed by the department and to cooperate with subsequent monitoring of the provider's progress. In the event a provider fails to implement the plan of correction or fails to cooperate with subsequent monitoring, the department may impose civil penalties of not more than one hundred fifty dollars per day per violation. Each day during which the same or similar action or inaction occurs constitutes a separate violation.
- (3) When determining the appropriate enforcement action or actions under subsection (2) of this section, the department must select actions commensurate with the seriousness of the harm or threat of harm to the persons being served by the provider. Further, the department may take enforcement actions that are more severe for violations that are uncorrected, repeated, pervasive, or which present a serious threat of harm to the health, safety, or welfare of persons served by the provider. The department shall by rule develop criteria for the selection and implementation of enforcement actions authorized in subsection (2) of this section. Rules adopted under this section shall include a process for an informal review upon request by a provider.
- (4) The provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW apply to enforcement actions under this section. Except for the imposition of civil penalties, the effective date of enforcement actions shall not be delayed or suspended pending any hearing or informal review.
- (5) The enforcement actions and penalties authorized in this section are not exclusive or exhaustive and nothing in this section prohibits the department from taking any other action authorized in statute or rule or under the terms of a contract with the provider.

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- 1 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 3.** RCW 71A.12.270 is recodified as a section in
- 2 chapter 71A.12 RCW.

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