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HOUSE BILL 3078

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State of Washington

60th Legislature

2008 Regular Session

By Representatives O'Brien, Dickerson, Darneille, Halder, Roach, Wallace, Walsh, Roberts, Springer, Williams, Green, Simpson, Conway, and Ormsby

Read first time 01/22/08. Referred to Committee on Human Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to lifelong learning services for individuals  
2 diagnosed with severe to profound intellectual developmental  
3 disabilities; adding a new chapter to Title 71A RCW; and making an  
4 appropriation.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that a developmental  
7 disability is a natural part of human experience and the presence of a  
8 developmental disability in the life of a person does not diminish or  
9 alter a person's rights or opportunity to participate fully in the life  
10 of the community. The legislature recognizes that with the advancement  
11 and widespread availability of medical, educational, and social  
12 services, people with significant, multiple developmental disabilities  
13 are living longer and that investing in them at every stage of life  
14 helps maintain their skills and abilities and provides them the  
15 opportunity to have a meaningful daily life. Providing continued  
16 learning opportunities for individuals with severe and profound  
17 intellectual developmental disabilities supports both the individual  
18 and helps to maintain the well-being of the family.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    The purpose of this chapter is to:

2        (1)    Create lifelong learning services administered by the  
3    department of social and health services which include a balanced array  
4    of social and supportive services that promote individual choice,  
5    dignity, and the highest practicable level of independence.    These  
6    lifelong learning services shall be:

7        (a)    Based on the specific needs of the person with a developmental  
8    disability;

9        (b)    State-administered; and

10       (c)    Available throughout the state;

11       (2)    Ensure that individual needs will be determined by uniform  
12    comprehensive assessment;

13       (3)    Ensure that services are provided in the most inclusive  
14    situation consistent with individual needs;

15       (4)    Ensure that lifelong learning service options be developed and  
16    made available that enable individuals to continue to live in their  
17    homes or other community residential support programs or in the care of  
18    their families;

19       (5)    Ensure that lifelong learning services are coordinated in a way  
20    that minimizes administrative cost, eliminates unnecessarily complex  
21    organization, minimizes program and service duplication, and maximizes  
22    the use of financial resources in directly meeting the needs of  
23    persons;

24       (6)    Support higher educational institutions in Washington state to  
25    assist in the provision of lifelong learning services; and

26       (7)    Be responsive and appropriate to individual need and also cost-  
27    effective for the state.

28       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    The services provided under this chapter are  
29    not intended to replace employment supports or the pathway to  
30    employment but are additional supports and training a person with a  
31    developmental disability is assessed to need in order to live an  
32    independent and meaningful life.

33       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.**    Under the lifelong services program,  
34    individuals, to the maximum extent possible, must be given a choice of  
35    services and authority to exercise control over the resources available

1 to them. The department of social and health services, to the maximum  
2 extent feasible, will seek a federal medicaid match for funds  
3 appropriated for lifelong learning services.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** To be eligible for lifelong learning  
5 services, individuals must be at least twenty-one years old and  
6 diagnosed with a severe to profound intellectual developmental  
7 disability. Authorized services will be based on the individual's  
8 assessed need. The services may be provided alone or with employment  
9 or other day service options.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Based on the funds appropriated by the  
11 legislature, the following services may be provided under the lifelong  
12 services program:

- 13 (1) Independent living skills training;
- 14 (2) Community participation;
- 15 (3) Social skills training;
- 16 (4) Self-advocacy training;
- 17 (5) Recreation;
- 18 (6) Continuing education classes;
- 19 (7) Personal assistance; and
- 20 (8) Transportation.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** The sum of three million dollars, or as much  
22 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium ending  
23 June 30, 2009, from the general fund to the department of social and  
24 health services for the purposes of creating the lifelong services  
25 described in this act.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Sections 1 through 6 of this act constitute  
27 a new chapter in Title 71A RCW.

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