

**HB 1835** - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Health & Long-Term Care

ADOPTED 04/15/2009

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 44.04.280 and 2004 c 175 s 1 are each amended to read  
4 as follows:

5 (1) The legislature recognizes that language used in reference to  
6 individuals with disabilities shapes and reflects society's attitudes  
7 towards people with disabilities. Many of the terms currently used  
8 diminish the humanity and natural condition of having a disability.  
9 Certain terms are demeaning and create an invisible barrier to  
10 inclusion as equal community members. The legislature finds it  
11 necessary to clarify preferred language for new and revised laws by  
12 requiring the use of terminology that puts the person before the  
13 disability.

14 (2)(a) The code reviser is directed to avoid all references to:  
15 Disabled, developmentally disabled, mentally disabled, mentally ill,  
16 mentally retarded, handicapped, cripple, and crippled, in any new  
17 statute, memorial, or resolution, and to change such references in any  
18 existing statute, memorial, or resolution as sections including these  
19 references are otherwise amended by law.

20 (b) The code reviser is directed to replace terms referenced in (a)  
21 of this subsection as appropriate with the following revised  
22 terminology: "Individuals with disabilities," "individuals with  
23 developmental disabilities," "individuals with mental illness," and  
24 "individuals with (~~mental retardation~~) intellectual disabilities."

25 (3) No statute, memorial, or resolution is invalid because it does  
26 not comply with this section.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The code reviser is directed to submit a  
28 recommendation to the legislature, in the form of a bill, concerning  
29 replacement of the phrase "mental retardation" with the phrase

1 "intellectual disability" and making other perfecting changes that may  
2 be required, throughout the Revised Code of Washington. The code  
3 reviser shall consult with legislative committee staff and other  
4 interested or affected parties. The recommendation must be submitted  
5 to the appropriate committees of the house of representatives and the  
6 senate by December 1, 2009."

**HB 1835** - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Health & Long-Term Care

**ADOPTED 04/15/2009**

7 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "laws;" strike the remainder  
8 of the title and insert "amending RCW 44.04.280; and creating a new  
9 section."

**--- END ---**