
SENATE BILL 6495

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2010 Regular Session

By Senators Hobbs and Stevens

Read first time 01/15/10. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 AN ACT Relating to supported living vendor rates; adding a new
2 section to chapter 71A.10 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an
3 effective date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that the
6 department of social and health services current geographical
7 classifications for setting vendor rates for supported living providers
8 creates a disparity in compensation rates between Snohomish county
9 providers and King county providers, despite the fact that Snohomish
10 and King counties share the same client base and the same pool of
11 supported living workers. Although Snohomish and King counties are
12 often classified as part of the same metropolitan area for funding
13 purposes, the current department classifications provide significantly
14 higher rates for King county vendors, resulting in significantly higher
15 compensation for King county supported living workers. Snohomish
16 county workers are attracted by King county's higher compensation,
17 causing an unsustainably high turnover of these important service
18 providers in Snohomish county.

1 (2) The legislature further finds that stabilizing the turnover of
2 supported living workers in Snohomish county would provide better
3 structure and security for the adults with developmental disabilities
4 who rely on the care and services provided by supported living workers.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 71A.10 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 Whenever vendor rates for supported living providers are
8 established, or otherwise affected by legislative action, the
9 legislature must reduce the disparity in vendor rates between King
10 county supported living providers and Snohomish county supported living
11 providers, until the vendor rates for King county supported living
12 providers and Snohomish county supported living providers are equal.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act takes effect July 1, 2010.

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