

HB 2450 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Health Care

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** This act may be known and cited as the
4 state employment disability parity act.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.41 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 The legislature finds that seven percent of the state's population
8 consists of persons with disabilities, that persons with disabilities
9 suffer significantly higher rates of unemployment and underemployment
10 than in the general population, and that representation of disabled
11 persons in the state workforce has declined in recent years. The
12 legislature further finds that there is no policy similar to Schedule
13 A in the federal civil service system for priority hiring of persons
14 with disabilities. The legislature further finds that state government
15 human resource managers do not coordinate with the department of social
16 and health services' division of vocational rehabilitation regarding
17 opportunities to employ persons with disabilities. Therefore, the
18 legislature intends to increase the hiring of persons with disabilities
19 in the state workforce.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.41 RCW
21 to read as follows:

22 (1) Agencies employing one hundred or more people must submit an
23 annual report to the office of financial management, with copies to the
24 department of social and health services' division of vocational
25 rehabilitation, the department of services for the blind, and the
26 governor's committee on disabilities and employment. The report must
27 be submitted in accordance with a schedule determined by the office of
28 financial management.

1 (2) The report must include the following information from the
2 prior fiscal year:
3 (a) The number of employees as of June 30th;
4 (b) The number of employees classified as individuals with
5 disabilities;
6 (c) The number of employees that separated from the state agency;
7 (d) The number of employees that were hired by the state agency;
8 (e) The number of division of vocational rehabilitation program and
9 department of services for the blind clients hired;
10 (f) Anticipated hires for the current fiscal year; and
11 (g) Planned opportunities for division of vocational rehabilitation
12 clients leading to permanent employment."

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13 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "disabilities;" strike the
14 remainder of the title and insert "adding new sections to chapter 43.41
15 RCW; and creating a new section."

EFFECT: The report requirement applies to agencies employing 100 or more people, rather than 30 or more. The report must be annual, submitted on a schedule determined by the office of financial management, and include data from the prior fiscal year. The department of services for the blind must be provided the report and clients of the department of services for the blind must be included in the data collected by the report. Rather than reporting individuals classified as disabled, the report must include those individuals who self-identify as disabled.

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