
HOUSE BILL 2734

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2014 Regular Session

By Representatives Freeman, Morrell, Santos, Bergquist, Ryu, Gregerson, and Ormsby

Read first time 01/29/14. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & Human Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to allowing individuals with developmental
2 disabilities to access both employment services and community access
3 services at the same time; and amending RCW 71A.12.290.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 71A.12.290 and 2012 c 49 s 1 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (1) Clients age twenty-one and older who are receiving employment
8 services must be offered the choice to transition to a community access
9 program after nine months of enrollment in an employment program, and
10 the option to transition from a community access program to an
11 employment program at any time. Enrollment in an employment program
12 begins at the time the client is authorized to receive employment.

13 (2) Prior approval by the department shall not be required to
14 effectuate the client's choice to transition from an employment program
15 to community access services after verifying nine months of
16 participation in employment-related services.

17 (3) The department shall inform clients and their legal
18 representatives of all available options for employment and day
19 services, including the opportunity to request an exception from

1 enrollment in an employment program. Information provided to the
2 client and the client's legal representative must include the types of
3 activities each service option provides, and the amount, scope, and
4 duration of service for which the client would be eligible under each
5 service option. (~~An individual client may be authorized for only one
6 service option, either employment services or community access
7 services. Clients may not participate in more than one of these
8 services at any given time.~~)

9 (4) The department shall work with counties and stakeholders to
10 strengthen and expand the existing community access program, including
11 the consideration of options that allow for alternative service
12 settings outside of the client's residence. The program should
13 emphasize support for the clients so that they are able to participate
14 in activities that integrate them into their community and support
15 independent living and skills.

16 (5) The department shall develop rules to allow for an exception to
17 the requirement that a client participate in an employment program for
18 nine months prior to transitioning to a community access program.

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