
SENATE BILL 5397

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Senators Keiser, Schlicher, McAuliffe, and Conway

Read first time 01/29/13. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing outcome measures for the community
2 mental health service delivery system; adding a new section to chapter
3 71.28 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 71.28 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) The department of social and health services shall establish
8 procedures for measuring client outcomes and delivery system attributes
9 for the community mental health service delivery system. The
10 department must make outcome measures publicly available in a form that
11 allows for comparison of outcomes and levels of improvement between
12 geographic regions of Washington.

13 (2) The following client outcomes must be monitored for the
14 community mental health service delivery system: (a) Improvements in
15 health status; (b) improved participation in employment and education;
16 (c) improved housing stability; (d) improved quality of life, including
17 measures of recovery and resilience; (e) improved access to treatment
18 and health outcomes, as measured by reduction in disparity in

1 population-based studies; (f) reduced criminal justice system
2 involvement; and (g) reduced avoidable utilization of hospital,
3 emergency room, and crisis services.

4 (3) The following delivery system attributes must be monitored for
5 the community mental health service delivery system: (a) Improvements
6 in level of reliance on evidence-based, research-based, and promising
7 practices; (b) reductions in boarding practices for crisis patients;
8 (c) instances of connection and cross-system collaboration with law
9 enforcement and criminal justice agencies; and (d) effectiveness in
10 engaging and monitoring health status of forensically involved mental
11 health patients released from incarceration or involuntary commitment
12 within the geographic region.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** By December 1, 2013, the department of
14 social and health services shall propose an incentive system that would
15 reward superior performance relating to client outcome measures and
16 delivery system attributes described in section 1 of this act, and
17 describe any legal or practical barriers that would need to be
18 addressed prior to implementation of such a system.

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