
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1151

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Moeller, Tarleton, Robinson, Bergquist, Ormsby, Senn, Tharinger, and Santos)

READ FIRST TIME 02/19/15.

1 AN ACT Relating to respite services for caregivers of people with
2 mental illness; adding a new section to chapter 74.09 RCW; and
3 providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 74.09
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) No later than April 1, 2016, the department shall establish
8 up to three pilot projects to offer respite services to primary
9 caregivers of people with severe mental illness. The respite services
10 must be provided by individuals qualified to meet the needs of the
11 person receiving care, as determined by the department. Respite
12 services may be provided on either a planned or emergent basis and
13 may be provided in the home of the primary caregiver, the home of the
14 person receiving care, or in the facility of a licensed service
15 provider.

16 (2) The three participating counties must be selected from
17 counties located in a behavioral health organization that becomes an
18 early adopter of fully integrated purchasing of medical and
19 behavioral health services under RCW 71.24.380(6).

20 (3) The department shall submit a report on the results of the
21 pilot projects to the governor and the appropriate committees of the

1 legislature by November 15, 2017. The report must summarize findings
2 and any recommendations related to the benefits of respite services
3 to primary caregivers and to persons receiving care, the most
4 appropriate use and cost-effectiveness of different care settings,
5 and a summary of the cost of the program and any estimated savings
6 and an estimate of the costs and savings associated with making the
7 program available statewide.

8 (4) For the purposes of this section, the term "respite services"
9 means services that provide observation, direct support, and
10 monitoring to meet the physical, emotional, social, and mental health
11 needs of a person receiving care by individuals providing temporary
12 care other than the primary caregivers.

13 (5) This section expires June 30, 2018.

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