

SB 6564-S2.E - DIGEST

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Addresses persons with developmental disabilities.

Requires the developmental disabilities administration to: (1) Increase home visits for clients identified as having the highest risk of abuse and neglect; and

(2) Visit those clients at least once every four months, including unannounced visits as needed.

Creates an independent office of the developmental disabilities ombuds to monitor and report on services to persons with developmental disabilities.

Requires the ombuds to collaborate and have a memoranda of agreement with the office of the state long-term care ombuds, the office of the family and children's ombuds, Washington protection and advocacy system, the mental health ombuds, and the office of the education ombuds to clarify authority in those situations where their mandates overlap.

Requires the department of commerce to contract with a private, independent nonprofit organization to provide developmental disability ombuds services.

Requires the department of social and health services and the department of health to allow the ombuds to communicate privately with a person receiving services from the department of social and health services, or a person who is part of a fatality or near fatality investigation involving a person with developmental disabilities, for the purposes of carrying out its duties under this act.

Exempts the investigative records of the office of the developmental disabilities ombuds from public disclosure under the public records act.