
HOUSE BILL 1644

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Ortiz-Self, Lovick, Kilduff, Valdez, Frame, Goodman, Davis, and Leavitt

Read first time 01/25/19. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Early Learning.

1 AN ACT Relating to the creation of a youth development work group
2 within the department of children, youth, and families; adding a new
3 section to chapter 43.216 RCW; and 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 43.216
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) A youth development work group is created within the
8 department with the purpose of developing a mission, vision, and
9 goals over the 2019-2021 biennium for supporting youth ages five to
10 young adulthood with a racial equity and inclusion lens.

11 (2) The youth development work group shall:

12 (a)(i) Develop meaningful youth-level, research-based prevention
13 and promotion outcomes and measures addressing:

14 (A) Positive identity development;

15 (B) Resiliency;

16 (C) Strong family, school, peer, and community relationships;

17 (D) Gang prevention;

18 (E) On-time high school graduation; and

19 (F) Completion of a postsecondary degree or credential
20 attainment.

1 (ii) All outcomes developed by the work group must have measures
2 associated with them that are, or can be, used to measure the
3 outcomes;

4 (b) Work with department to create a meaningful youth engagement
5 strategy and a local community stakeholder engagement strategy to
6 assist in the development and finalization of work group
7 recommendations. Constituencies must include, but are not limited to:
8 Parents; communities in which English is not the primary language;
9 immigrant and refugee communities; and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and
10 transgender communities;

11 (c) Assess and provide recommendations to improve or create new
12 infrastructures and funding streams that support youth development
13 within the department, as well as linkages to other state
14 departments, including the office of the superintendent of public
15 instruction;

16 (d) Recommend local infrastructure, support, and feedback
17 channels to meet statewide prevention and promotion goals;

18 (e) Make recommendations to integrate and enhance department
19 youth engagement strategies as well as local stakeholder and provider
20 engagement strategies through existing local infrastructures, and
21 ensure youth voice with racial, geographic, and other diverse types
22 of youth representation;

23 (f) Provide recommendations to ensure that a racial equity
24 approach and an inclusion-based framework is embedded in the youth
25 development strategy at the department. An inclusion-based framework
26 includes the creation of environments in which any individual or
27 group can be and feel welcomed, respected, supported, and valued, and
28 can fully participate, including students with disabilities or
29 students who have experienced trauma or have mental health needs;

30 (g) Make recommendations on the creation of a children's cabinet
31 that would facilitate cross-agency coordination, and program and
32 policy development with a common mission to measurably improve the
33 well-being of Washington's children, youth, and families through
34 evidence-based practices and strengthen families through evidence-
35 based practices and strength-based approaches to positive child and
36 youth development.

37 (3) (a) By December 1st annually, and in compliance with RCW
38 43.01.036, the youth development work group must submit a report to
39 the governor and the appropriate committees of the legislature. The
40 first report is due by December 1, 2019.

1 (b) In the report, the youth development work group shall provide
2 recommendations that:

3 (i) Align child and adolescent brain research and research-based
4 best practices;

5 (ii) Sustain early learning gains, support learning and well-
6 being, prevent entry into the child welfare and juvenile justice
7 systems, and support happy, healthy, safe, and thriving children and
8 youth;

9 (iii) Provide guidance for a department system and strategy for
10 supporting prevention and promotion across the five through young
11 adulthood age span, not only to prevent negative outcomes for youth
12 and young adults, but also to increase positive outcomes for them;

13 (iv) Allow for clearer linkages to schools and the office of the
14 superintendent of public instruction as well as breaking down siloes
15 and barriers for youth programming between state departments;

16 (v) Provide support to youth programming, such as expanded
17 learning opportunities, school-age child care, mentoring, leadership
18 opportunities, and other programs that support positive youth
19 development;

20 (vi) Include working with providers and youth development
21 stakeholders to utilize their knowledge and expertise to formulate
22 recommendations that integrate statewide systems and supports with
23 existing local youth development and engagement programming and
24 systems. Systems include youth programs, local private and public
25 funding, supports for students with disabilities, and other key
26 supports for children and youth; and

27 (vii) Consider whether youth representation should be included in
28 the department's oversight board.

29 (4) The youth development work group must consist of nineteen
30 voting and nine nonvoting members as provided in this subsection.

31 (a) To ensure racial and geographic diversity by reflecting the
32 demographics of impacted youth populations, the department shall
33 appoint fifteen voting members including:

34 (i) A department representative;

35 (ii) An office of the superintendent of public instruction
36 representative;

37 (iii) Two representatives for youth currently in a youth
38 development or expanded learning program representing geographic,
39 racial, or other diversity;

40 (iv) A parent with a youth in a culturally based organization;

1 (v) A culturally based organization that provides youth
2 programming;

3 (vi) A regional youth development intermediary;

4 (vii) An expanded learning opportunities or youth development
5 provider;

6 (viii) A school-age child care provider;

7 (ix) A statewide mentoring provider;

8 (x) A local public youth development funder;

9 (xi) A local private youth development funder;

10 (xii) A representative from the office of the superintendent of
11 public instruction special education advisory council;

12 (xiii) A kinship care representative; and

13 (xiv) A tribal representative.

14 (b) The youth development work group must include four voting
15 members who represent the legislature.

16 (i) The president of the senate shall appoint one member from
17 each of the largest caucuses of the senate.

18 (ii) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint
19 one member from each of the largest caucuses of the house of
20 representatives.

21 (c) The youth development work group must include nine nonvoting
22 members representing:

23 (i) Higher education;

24 (ii) The department of commerce;

25 (iii) The department of social and health services;

26 (iv) The department of health;

27 (v) Mental health agencies or advocacy organizations;

28 (vi) Public and low-income housing developments;

29 (vii) Expanded learning opportunities or youth development direct
30 service workers;

31 (viii) Expanded learning opportunity statewide intermediaries;
32 and

33 (ix) Parent stakeholders.

34 (5) The department shall provide up to five stipends to cover
35 travel and time for youth development work group members that do not
36 have the resources or job classification to participate in a
37 statewide work group, such as parents and youth.

38 (6) Staff support for the work group must be provided by the
39 department.

1 (7) Legislative members of the work group are reimbursed for
2 travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120. Except as provided
3 in subsection (5) of this section, nonlegislative members are not
4 entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses if they are elected
5 officials or are participating on behalf of an employer, government
6 entity, or other organization. Any reimbursement for other
7 nonlegislative members is subject to chapter 43.03 RCW.

8 (8) This section expires December 31, 2021.

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