SENATE BILL 5182

State of Washington 69th Legislature 2025 Regular Session

By Senators Nobles, Frame, Bateman, Hasegawa, Saldaña, Trudeau, and C. Wilson

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- 1 AN ACT Relating to programs and services for incarcerated parents
- 2 at the department of corrections; and amending RCW 72.09.588 and
- 3 9.94A.6551.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 72.09.588 and 2018 c 41 s 1 are each amended to read 6 as follows:
- 7 (1) The department must make reasonable accommodations for the

provision of available midwifery or doula services to ((inmates))

- 9 <u>incarcerated individuals</u> who are pregnant or who have given birth in
- 10 the last six weeks. Persons providing midwifery or doula services
- 11 must be granted appropriate facility access, must be allowed to
- 12 attend and provide assistance during labor and childbirth where
- 13 feasible, and must have access to the ((inmate's)) incarcerated
- 14 <u>individual's</u> relevant health care information, as defined in RCW
- 15 70.02.010, if the ((inmate)) incarcerated individual authorizes
- 16 disclosure.

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- 17 (2) For purposes of this section, the following definitions 18 apply:
- 19 (a) "Doula services" are services provided by a trained doula and designed to provide physical, emotional, or informational support to
- 21 a pregnant ((woman)) <u>individual</u> before, during, and after delivery of

p. 1 SB 5182

a child. Doula services may include, but are not limited to: Support and assistance during labor and childbirth; prenatal and postpartum education; breastfeeding assistance; parenting education; and support in the event that ((a woman)) an individual has been or will become separated from ((her)) their child.

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- (b) "Midwifery services" means medical aid rendered by a midwife to ((a woman)) an individual during prenatal, intrapartum, or postpartum stages or to ((a woman's)) an individual's newborn up to two weeks of age.
- 10 (c) "Midwife" means a midwife licensed under chapter 18.50 RCW or 11 an advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed under chapter 12 18.79 RCW.
- (3) Nothing in this section ((requires the department to 13 14 establish or provide funding for midwifery or doula services, or)) prevents the department from adopting policy guidelines for the 15 16 delivery of midwifery or doula services to ((inmates)) incarcerated 17 individuals, or from contracting with a nonprofit organization or partnering with volunteers to deliver these services to incarcerated 18 19 individuals. Services provided under this section may not supplant health care services routinely provided to the ((inmate)) 20 21 incarcerated individual.
- 22 **Sec. 2.** RCW 9.94A.6551 and 2024 c 193 s 1 are each amended to 23 read as follows:
 - (1) (a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, for an incarcerated individual not sentenced under RCW 9.94A.655, but otherwise eligible under this section, no more than the final 12 months of the incarcerated individual's term of confinement may be served in partial confinement as home detention as part of the parenting program developed by the department.
 - (b) For an incarcerated individual not sentenced under RCW 9.94A.655, but otherwise eligible under this section, who is participating in the residential parenting program at the department, no more than the final 18 months of the incarcerated individual's term of confinement may be served in partial confinement as home detention as part of the parenting program developed by the department.
- 37 (2) The secretary may transfer an incarcerated individual from a 38 correctional facility to home detention in the community if it is

p. 2 SB 5182

determined that the parenting program is an appropriate placement and when all of the following conditions exist:

- (a) The incarcerated individual is serving a sentence in which the high end of the range is greater than one year;
- (b) The incarcerated individual has no current conviction for a felony that is classified as a sex offense or a serious violent offense;
- (c) The incarcerated individual has no current conviction for a violent offense, or where the incarcerated individual has a current conviction for a violent offense, he or she has not been determined to be a high risk to reoffend;
- (d) The incarcerated individual signs any release of information waivers required to allow information regarding current or prior child welfare cases to be shared with the department and the court;
 - (e) The incarcerated individual is:
 - (i) A parent with guardianship or legal custody of a minor child;
 - (ii) An expectant parent; ((or))

- (iii) A biological parent, adoptive parent, custodian, or stepparent with a proven, established, ongoing, and substantial relationship with a minor child ((that existed at the time of the offense)); or
- (iv) An individual expected to take over the duties of a parent and be responsible for exercising the day-to-day care and control of a minor child; and
- (f) The department determines that the incarcerated individual's participation in the parenting program is in the best interests of the child. Nothing in this section provides the department with authority to determine placement of a minor child.
- (3) Except for sex offenses and serious violent offenses, prior juvenile adjudications are not considered offenses when considering eligibility for the parenting program developed by the department.
- (4) When the department is considering partial confinement as part of the parenting program for an incarcerated individual, the department shall inquire of the individual and the department of children, youth, and families whether the agency has an open child welfare case or prior substantiated referral for abuse or neglect involving the incarcerated individual.
- (5) If the department of children, youth, and families or a tribal jurisdiction has an open child welfare case, the department will seek input from the department of children, youth, and families

p. 3 SB 5182

- or the involved tribal jurisdiction as to: (a) The status of the 1 child welfare case; and (b) recommendations regarding placement of 2 the incarcerated individual, services agreed to by the incarcerated 3 individual working voluntarily with the department, or services 4 ordered by the court within the incarcerated individual's child 5 6 welfare case. The department and its officers, agents, and employees 7 are not liable for the acts of incarcerated individuals participating in the parenting program unless the department or its officers, 8 agents, and employees acted with willful and wanton disregard. 9
 - (6) All incarcerated individuals placed on home detention as part of the parenting program shall provide an approved residence and living arrangement prior to transfer to home detention.
- 13 (7) While in the community on home detention as part of the parenting program, the department shall:
- 15 (a) Require the individual to be placed on electronic home 16 monitoring;
 - (b) Require the individual to participate in programming and treatment that the department determines is needed after consideration of the individual's stated needs;
 - (c) Assign a community corrections officer who will monitor the individual's compliance with conditions of partial confinement and programming requirements; and
 - (d) If the individual has an open child welfare case with the department of children, youth, and families, collaborate and communicate with the identified social worker in the provision of services.
 - (8) The department has the authority to return any incarcerated individual serving partial confinement in the parenting program to total confinement if the individual is not complying with sentence requirements.
 - (9) For the purposes of this section:

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- (a) "Expectant parent" means a pregnant or other parent awaiting the birth of his or her child, or an adoptive parent or person in the process of a final adoption.
 - (b) "Minor child" means a child under the age of eighteen.
- (c) "Residential parenting program" means a correctional nursery program administered by the department that allows pregnant, minimum security incarcerated individuals that meet eligibility criteria established by the department to keep their newborn children with

p. 4 SB 5182

- 1 them after giving birth in a designated unit and receive support and
- 2 education in alliance with skilled early childhood educators.

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p. 5 SB 5182