
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1882

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By House Committee on Health Care (originally sponsored by Representatives Morris, Moyer, Ebersole, Appelwick, Leonard, Wood, Braddock, Brumsickle, Prentice, Heavey, Pruitt, Paris, Cooper, Roland, H. Myers, Belcher, Mielke, Hine, Bowman, Wineberry, Phillips, Orr, Cantwell, Spanel, Rust, Holland, Edmondson, Casada, Sprenkle, Franklin, Riley, Bray, R. Johnson, Rayburn, Ogden, Ludwig, Jacobsen, Nelson, Miller, Winsley, P. Johnson, D. Sommers, Sheldon, Brekke, Rasmussen, Mitchell and Anderson).

Read first time February 27, 1991.

1 AN ACT Relating to family violence; adding a new chapter to Title
2 70 RCW; creating new sections; making an appropriation; and declaring
3 an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature declares that incidents
6 of family violence have reached epidemic proportions and must not be
7 tolerated; that exposure to family violence at an early age appears to
8 be a significant risk factor for subsequent violent behavior against
9 the community at large; and that escalating health care, criminal
10 justice, and human services costs of family violence compel it to
11 explore new models of prevention and intervention.

12 The legislature further declares that family violence ruptures the
13 basic unit upon which our culture is based, mocks our sense of
14 individual dignity and justice, and denies our children the nurturing

1 environment necessary for their physical, emotional, and intellectual
2 development.

3 The legislature recognizes that alcohol and drug abuse are both
4 contributing factors to, and important by-products of, family violence.
5 Alcohol and drug abuse increases the likelihood and severity of
6 violence in the perpetrator, increases the distress, vulnerability, and
7 dysfunction of adult victims, and impairs the development of children
8 exposed to violence.

9 The legislature acknowledges that criminal justice agencies,
10 charged with the capture, adjudication, and postconviction management
11 of offenders have little if any control over societal patterns and
12 relationships that spawn family violence. Therefore, exclusive
13 reliance on a criminal justice response to family violence cannot
14 effectively prevent its occurrence or safeguard the community. Other
15 successful approaches to prevention, intervention, and treatment,
16 including those used by the health care and public health professions,
17 must be explored.

18 The purpose of this act is to strengthen existing support systems
19 that provide safety, security, advocacy, and health care to victims of
20 family violence; to inventory the breadth of programs available to
21 those experiencing family violence; and to investigate new long range
22 models of prevention and early intervention that coordinate efforts by
23 the criminal justice, health care, mental health, and social services
24 delivery systems.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** As used in section 3 of this act,
26 "family violence" means a typology of abuses against persons,
27 including spouse or partner abuse, child abuse, child sexual abuse or
28 incest, sibling abuse, and elder abuse in the form of physical
29 violence, sexual violence, emotional or psychological violence, and

1 environmental violence. Family violence includes but is not limited to
2 child abuse or neglect, as defined in RCW 26.44.020, sexual offenses,
3 as provided in chapter 9A.44 RCW, and domestic violence, as defined in
4 RCW 10.99.020.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The secretary of health shall
6 develop public health surveillance systems for tracing morbidity
7 associated with family violence, methodologies for precisely
8 identifying groups at risk for family violence, research methods for
9 exploring potentially modifiable risk factors for family violence, and
10 a system for rigorously evaluating existing programs that are intended
11 to prevent family violence or modify a suspected risk factor.

12 (2) The secretary of social and health services shall establish,
13 through a competitive selection process, three new pilot programs in
14 communities geographically balanced throughout the state that will
15 assure a sustained commitment towards containing family violence. The
16 goal of the pilot programs shall be to test a variety of prevention and
17 early intervention strategies to successfully interrupt the escalating
18 cycle of family violence in Washington communities.

19 (a) The department of social and health services and the department
20 of health shall jointly develop criteria for the selection of pilot
21 programs;

22 (b) Each pilot program shall provide for coordination between local
23 law enforcement agencies and courts, local governments, domestic
24 violence and sexual assault victims' support programs, regional support
25 networks, public health agencies, health care providers, schools, other
26 community organizations, and relevant programs within state agencies.
27 Each pilot program shall designate a lead agency and develop written
28 interagency agreements to provide a coordinated continuum of services.
29 Pilot programs shall make every effort to preserve existing family

1 violence intervention programs and coordinate available funding for
2 services related to family violence prevention and services to victims
3 of family violence;

4 (c) The pilot program shall provide at least the following
5 services: Services to family members who are victims of violence;
6 services to victims of violent crime; case management services; and
7 specialized intervention programs for treatment of perpetrators of
8 violence, such as anger management, parenting and caregiver training to
9 families experiencing or at-risk of experiencing violence, and public
10 education regarding community violence;

11 (d) A majority of the families served by each pilot program must
12 have some involvement with drug or alcohol abuse; and

13 (e) Twenty-five percent of funding for the pilot program shall be
14 provided in-kind or in cash by public or private entities in the
15 community served by the program.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The office of financial management shall
17 inventory, catalogue, and assess all state-operated, state-funded, or
18 privately operated programs serving violent families, including a
19 description of how each program is administered, the types of services
20 provided and the type and number of persons served through the program
21 during calendar years 1989 and 1990. This information shall be
22 provided in a report to the following committees of the legislature on
23 or before October 1, 1991: The senate law and justice committee, the
24 senate children and family services committee, the senate committee on
25 health and long-term care, the house of representatives judiciary
26 committee, the house of representatives human services committee, and
27 the house of representatives health care committee. Upon receipt of
28 the report, the chairpersons and appropriate members of such committees
29 shall jointly develop legislative recommendations regarding the

1 implementation of a coordinated, effective family violence prevention
2 and intervention strategy for Washington state.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** One million five hundred thousand
4 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated to the
5 department of social and health services from the drug enforcement and
6 education account for the biennium ending June 30, 1993, for three new
7 pilot programs established pursuant to section 3 of this act. Grants
8 to each pilot program shall not exceed two hundred fifty thousand
9 dollars per year.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** If any provision of this act or its
11 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
12 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
13 persons or circumstances is not affected.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Sections 2 and 3 of this act shall
15 constitute a new chapter in Title 70 RCW.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Sections 2, 3, and 4 of this act are
17 necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health,
18 or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public
19 institutions, and shall take effect immediately.