Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Human Services Committee

ESSB 6760

Brief Description: Concerning the developmental disabilities trust account.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Regala, Zarelli, Rasmussen, Roach and Fairley).

Brief Summary of Engrossed Substitute Bill

Adds Fircrest School, Yakima Valley School, and Francis Hadden Morgan Center as
residential habilitation centers that can have proceeds from the use of its excess property
deposited into the Developmental Disabilities Community Trust Account.

Hearing Date: 2/25/08

Staff: Brian Considine (786-7290).

Background:

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), within the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), operates five residential habilitation centers (RHCs) for qualified developmentally disabled citizens. The RHCs provide 24-hour residential housing for individuals needing institutional care. In addition, RHCs provide respite care and other specialized services to eligible individuals living in the community. The RHCs in operation are: Fircrest School, located in Shoreline; Frances Haddon Morgan Center, located in Bremerton; Lakeland Village, located in Medical Lake; Rainier School, located in Buckley; and Yakima Valley School, located in Selah.

The Developmental Disabilities Community Trust Account (Account), known as the Dan Thompson Memorial Trust Account, was established in 2005. The Account is to receive all proceeds from the use of excess property identified in the 2002 Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee capital study at Rainier School and Lakeland Village. Income may come from the lease of land, conservation easements, sale of timber, or other activities short of the sale of property. The disposal of excess property cannot impact current residential habilitation center operations.

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The Account is authorized to retain its earnings from investments. Interest on the Account can be spent on community-based services for people with developmental disabilities. The Account should not be used to replace, supplant, or reduce existing appropriations. Lands at Fircrest School are partly owned by the DSHS and partly owned by the Charitable, Educational, Penal, Reformatory Institutions trust managed by the Department of Natural Resources.

Summary of Bill:

Fircrest School, Yakima Valley School, and Francis Hadden Morgan Center are added to the current RHCs that can have proceeds from the use of its excess property deposited into the Account. Proceeds may also include amounts from the sale of excess property, and lease payments for use of surplus land may also be spent on community-based services for people with developmental disabilities.

Clarifying and technical changes are made to how proceeds are accounted for and expended in the Account. Reference to the 2006 DSHS report is deleted.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

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