
HOUSE BILL 1574

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Representatives Kagi, Ryu, and Pollet; by request of Department of Social and Health Services

Read first time 01/31/13. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & Human Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to investigative costs for residential services and
2 supports programs; and adding new sections to chapter 71A.12 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1. INTENT.** The legislature finds that
5 Washington's system to support persons with intellectual disabilities
6 in the residential services and supports program should more
7 aggressively investigate and resolve complaints of abuse or neglect for
8 the vulnerable populations it serves. The legislature intends to
9 address current funding levels that limit the department of social and
10 health services' ability to promote vulnerable adult protections in the
11 program. The legislature further intends that the cost of complaint
12 investigation should be supported by an appropriate certification fee
13 paid by the regulated businesses, rather than by the general taxpayers.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2. RESIDENTIAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTS**
15 **CERTIFICATION FEES.** (1) Before the issuance of initial certification
16 for the residential services and supports program, the applicant shall
17 pay a certification fee. After initial certification, the certified
18 provider must also pay an annual certification fee. Beginning July 1,

1 2013, and thereafter, the initial and annual certification fees must be
2 established in the omnibus appropriations act and any amendment or
3 additions made to that act. The certification fees established in the
4 omnibus appropriations act and any amendment or additions made to that
5 act may not exceed the department's costs for investigation of
6 complaints about provider practice and individuals alleged to have
7 abused, neglected, abandoned, or exploited clients. The certification
8 fees must include all of the department's cost of paying providers for
9 the amount of the certification fee attributed to medicaid clients.

10 (2) No fee may be required of government-operated institutions or
11 court-appointed receivers.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3. DEPARTMENT DUTIES.** The department shall use
13 additional investigative resources to address a significant growth in
14 the residential services and supports program complaint workload. The
15 department shall use the resources to intervene for clients in a
16 timelier manner when there is possible abuse or neglect. "Complaints,"
17 as used in this section, include both complaints about provider
18 practice, under this chapter, and complaints about individuals alleged
19 to have abused, neglected, abandoned, or exploited clients, under
20 chapter 74.34 RCW.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 1 through 3 of this act are each
22 added to chapter 71A.12 RCW.

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