
HOUSE BILL 1811

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Representatives Tokuda, Boldt, D. Sommers, Kenney and Ogden; by request of Department of Social and Health Services

Read first time 02/08/1999. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to supported employment; amending RCW 41.04.750 and
2 41.04.760; and amending 1997 c 287 s 1 (uncodified).

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

4 **Sec. 1.** 1997 c 287 s 1 (uncodified) is amended to read as follows:

5 The legislature finds that the rate of unemployment among
6 ~~((persons))~~ individuals with developmental disabilities or other
7 significant disabilities is high due to the limited employment
8 opportunities available to ~~((disabled persons))~~ them. Given that
9 ~~((persons))~~ individuals with developmental disabilities or other
10 significant disabilities are capable of filling employment positions in
11 the general work force population, supported employment is an effective
12 way of integrating such individuals into the general work force
13 population. The creation of supported employment programs can increase
14 the types and availability of employment positions for ~~((persons))~~
15 individuals with developmental disabilities or other significant
16 disabilities.

17 **Sec. 2.** RCW 41.04.750 and 1997 c 287 s 2 are each amended to read
18 as follows:

1 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise the definitions in
2 this section apply throughout RCW 41.04.760 through 41.04.780.

3 (1) "Developmental disability" means a disability as defined in RCW
4 71A.10.020.

5 (2) "Significant disability" means a disability as defined in 29
6 U.S.C. Sec. 705.

7 (3) "Supported employment" means employment for individuals with
8 developmental disabilities or other significant disabilities who
9 ((may)) require on-the-job training and long-term support in order to
10 fulfill their job duties successfully. Supported employment offers the
11 same wages and benefits as similar nonsupported employment positions.

12 ((+3)) (4) "State agency" means any office, department, division,
13 bureau, board, commission, community college or institution of higher
14 education, or agency of the state of Washington.

15 **Sec. 3.** RCW 41.04.760 and 1997 c 287 s 3 are each amended to read
16 as follows:

17 State agencies are encouraged to participate in supported
18 employment activities. The department of social and health services,
19 in conjunction with the department of personnel and the office of
20 financial management, shall identify agencies that have positions and
21 funding conducive to implementing supported employment. An agency may
22 only participate in supported employment activities pursuant to this
23 section if the agency is able to operate the program within its
24 existing budget. These agencies shall:

25 (1) Designate a coordinator who will be responsible for information
26 and resource referral regarding the agency's supported employment
27 program. The coordinator shall serve as a liaison between the agency
28 and the department of personnel regarding supported employment;

29 (2) Submit an annual update to the department of social and health
30 services, the department of personnel, and the office of financial
31 management. The annual update shall include: A description of the
32 agency's supported employment efforts, the number of ((persons))
33 individuals placed in supported employment positions by type of
34 disability, ~~((recommendations concerning expanding the supported~~
35 ~~employment program to include people with mental disabilities or other~~

1 disabilities)) and an overall evaluation of the effectiveness of
2 supported employment for the agency.

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