SENATE BILL 6093

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2001 Regular Session

By Senators Stevens, Long, Costa and Oke

Read first time 02/20/2001. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Corrections.

AN ACT Relating to a blended funding demonstration project to provide services to disturbed youth; adding a new chapter to Title 74 RCW; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 1. (1) The legislature finds that new 6 approaches are needed to serve youth with either serious emotional 7 disturbances or serious behavioral disturbances or both.

8 (2) The legislature finds that an organization with a long history 9 of serving youth has secured private foundation funding that can be 10 combined with existing state appropriated funding to establish a 11 blended funding demonstration project to test a new partnership 12 approach for serving youth with either serious emotional disturbances 13 or serious behavioral disturbances or both.

14 (3) The legislature declares its support for the creative
15 application of statutory authority by the department to implement this
16 blended funding demonstration project.

17 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 2. (1) The secretary and the superintendent of 18 public instruction shall enter into a joint agreement with an

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organization with a long history of serving youth that has secured 1 2 private foundation funding to be combined with existing state appropriated funding to establish a blended funding demonstration 3 4 project to test a new partnership approach for serving youth with emotional disturbances or 5 either serious serious behavioral disturbances or both. The secretary of the department shall have б 7 primary responsibility for negotiating and executing the joint 8 agreement.

9 (2) The secretary and the superintendent of public instruction 10 shall transfer to the organization described in this section appropriations made in the biennial operating budget. 11 These funds represent a reallocation of existing resources used to serve youth with 12 13 either serious emotional disturbances or serious behavioral disturbances or both. The secretary shall transfer the funds described 14 15 in this section notwithstanding RCW 71.24.035(15)(c).

16 (3) If any federal restrictions exist that create barriers to the 17 transfer of funds appropriated to the department or the superintendent of public instruction, or if other federal requirements exist that 18 19 hamper the implementation of the blended funding demonstration project described in this section, the secretary and the superintendent of 20 public instruction shall assist the governor in immediately applying to 21 the federal government for waivers of the federal restrictions or 22 23 requirements.

(4) The secretary and the superintendent of public instruction
shall exercise existing statutory authority to the extent necessary to
facilitate the immediate and complete implementation of this blended
funding demonstration project.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. The blended funding demonstration project to test a new partnership approach for serving youth with either serious emotional disturbances or serious behavioral disturbances or both shall:

32 (1) Serve at least twenty-seven youth in the least restrictive33 setting at a lower cost than traditional approaches;

34 (2) Provide a comprehensive assessment, family advocacy, care35 monitoring, and evaluation;

(3) Provide individual and family therapy, therapeutic child care,
 crisis intervention, residential care, and access to other services
 through community-based partner agencies;

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1 (4) Create and maintain a data tracking system; and

2 (5) Evaluate the individual outcomes of the youth served by in 3 academic performance, placements reviewing psychiatric 4 hospitalization or residential care, involvement with the juvenile justice system, out-of-home placement, and quality and amount of 5 community involvement. The evaluation shall compare the results of б 7 children receiving the services described above with the results of a 8 similar cohort of children receiving traditional services in a 9 residential setting.

10 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 4. Sections 1 through 3 of this act constitute 11 a new chapter in Title 74 RCW.

12 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 5. This act is necessary for the immediate 13 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the 14 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect 15 July 1, 2001.

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