
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5475

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Senate Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senators Harper and Hobbs)

READ FIRST TIME 02/20/13.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a licensing category for resource and
2 assessment centers; amending RCW 74.15.020; and adding a new section to
3 chapter 74.15 RCW.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.15.020 and 2012 c 10 s 61 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter and
8 RCW 74.13.031 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

9 (1) "Agency" means any person, firm, partnership, association,
10 corporation, or facility which receives children, expectant mothers, or
11 persons with developmental disabilities for control, care, or
12 maintenance outside their own homes, or which places, arranges the
13 placement of, or assists in the placement of children, expectant
14 mothers, or persons with developmental disabilities for foster care or
15 placement of children for adoption, and shall include the following
16 irrespective of whether there is compensation to the agency or to the
17 children, expectant mothers, or persons with developmental disabilities
18 for services rendered:

1 (a) "Child-placing agency" means an agency which places a child or
2 children for temporary care, continued care, or for adoption;

3 (b) "Community facility" means a group care facility operated for
4 the care of juveniles committed to the department under RCW 13.40.185.
5 A county detention facility that houses juveniles committed to the
6 department under RCW 13.40.185 pursuant to a contract with the
7 department is not a community facility;

8 (c) "Crisis residential center" means an agency which is a
9 temporary protective residential facility operated to perform the
10 duties specified in chapter 13.32A RCW, in the manner provided in RCW
11 74.13.032 through 74.13.036;

12 (d) "Emergency respite center" is an agency that may be commonly
13 known as a crisis nursery, that provides emergency and crisis care for
14 up to seventy-two hours to children who have been admitted by their
15 parents or guardians to prevent abuse or neglect. Emergency respite
16 centers may operate for up to twenty-four hours a day, and for up to
17 seven days a week. Emergency respite centers may provide care for
18 children ages birth through seventeen, and for persons eighteen through
19 twenty with developmental disabilities who are admitted with a sibling
20 or siblings through age seventeen. Emergency respite centers may not
21 substitute for crisis residential centers or HOPE centers, or any other
22 services defined under this section, and may not substitute for
23 services which are required under chapter 13.32A or 13.34 RCW;

24 (e) "Foster-family home" means an agency which regularly provides
25 care on a twenty-four hour basis to one or more children, expectant
26 mothers, or persons with developmental disabilities in the family abode
27 of the person or persons under whose direct care and supervision the
28 child, expectant mother, or person with a developmental disability is
29 placed;

30 (f) "Group-care facility" means an agency, other than a foster-
31 family home, which is maintained and operated for the care of a group
32 of children on a twenty-four hour basis;

33 (g) "HOPE center" means an agency licensed by the secretary to
34 provide temporary residential placement and other services to street
35 youth. A street youth may remain in a HOPE center for thirty days
36 while services are arranged and permanent placement is coordinated. No
37 street youth may stay longer than thirty days unless approved by the
38 department and any additional days approved by the department must be

1 based on the unavailability of a long-term placement option. A street
2 youth whose parent wants him or her returned to home may remain in a
3 HOPE center until his or her parent arranges return of the youth, not
4 longer. All other street youth must have court approval under chapter
5 13.34 or 13.32A RCW to remain in a HOPE center up to thirty days;

6 (h) "Maternity service" means an agency which provides or arranges
7 for care or services to expectant mothers, before or during
8 confinement, or which provides care as needed to mothers and their
9 infants after confinement;

10 (i) "Responsible living skills program" means an agency licensed by
11 the secretary that provides residential and transitional living
12 services to persons ages sixteen to eighteen who are dependent under
13 chapter 13.34 RCW and who have been unable to live in his or her
14 legally authorized residence and, as a result, the minor lived outdoors
15 or in another unsafe location not intended for occupancy by the minor.
16 Dependent minors ages fourteen and fifteen may be eligible if no other
17 placement alternative is available and the department approves the
18 placement;

19 (j) "Service provider" means the entity that operates a community
20 facility.

21 (2) "Agency" shall not include the following:

22 (a) Persons related to the child, expectant mother, or person with
23 developmental disability in the following ways:

24 (i) Any blood relative, including those of half-blood, and
25 including first cousins, second cousins, nephews or nieces, and persons
26 of preceding generations as denoted by prefixes of grand, great, or
27 great-great;

28 (ii) Stepfather, stepmother, stepbrother, and stepsister;

29 (iii) A person who legally adopts a child or the child's parent as
30 well as the natural and other legally adopted children of such persons,
31 and other relatives of the adoptive parents in accordance with state
32 law;

33 (iv) Spouses of any persons named in (a)(i), (ii), or (iii) of this
34 subsection (2)(~~(a)~~), even after the marriage is terminated;

35 (v) Relatives, as named in (a)(i), (ii), (iii), or (iv) of this
36 subsection (2)(~~(a)~~), of any half sibling of the child; or

37 (vi) Extended family members, as defined by the law or custom of
38 the Indian child's tribe or, in the absence of such law or custom, a

1 person who has reached the age of eighteen and who is the Indian
2 child's grandparent, aunt or uncle, brother or sister, brother-in-law
3 or sister-in-law, niece or nephew, first or second cousin, or
4 stepparent who provides care in the family abode on a twenty-four-hour
5 basis to an Indian child as defined in 25 U.S.C. Sec. 1903(4);

6 (b) Persons who are legal guardians of the child, expectant mother,
7 or persons with developmental disabilities;

8 (c) Persons who care for a neighbor's or friend's child or
9 children, with or without compensation, where the parent and person
10 providing care on a twenty-four-hour basis have agreed to the placement
11 in writing and the state is not providing any payment for the care;

12 (d) A person, partnership, corporation, or other entity that
13 provides placement or similar services to exchange students or
14 international student exchange visitors or persons who have the care of
15 an exchange student in their home;

16 (e) A person, partnership, corporation, or other entity that
17 provides placement or similar services to international children who
18 have entered the country by obtaining visas that meet the criteria for
19 medical care as established by the United States citizenship and
20 immigration services, or persons who have the care of such an
21 international child in their home;

22 (f) Schools, including boarding schools, which are engaged
23 primarily in education, operate on a definite school year schedule,
24 follow a stated academic curriculum, accept only school-age children
25 and do not accept custody of children;

26 (g) Hospitals licensed pursuant to chapter 70.41 RCW when
27 performing functions defined in chapter 70.41 RCW, nursing homes
28 licensed under chapter 18.51 RCW and assisted living facilities
29 licensed under chapter 18.20 RCW;

30 (h) Licensed physicians or lawyers;

31 (i) Facilities approved and certified under chapter 71A.22 RCW;

32 (j) Any agency having been in operation in this state ten years
33 prior to June 8, 1967, and not seeking or accepting moneys or
34 assistance from any state or federal agency, and is supported in part
35 by an endowment or trust fund;

36 (k) Persons who have a child in their home for purposes of
37 adoption, if the child was placed in such home by a licensed child-

1 placing agency, an authorized public or tribal agency or court or if a
2 replacement report has been filed under chapter 26.33 RCW and the
3 placement has been approved by the court;

4 (l) An agency operated by any unit of local, state, or federal
5 government or an agency licensed by an Indian tribe pursuant to RCW
6 74.15.190;

7 (m) A maximum or medium security program for juvenile offenders
8 operated by or under contract with the department;

9 (n) An agency located on a federal military reservation, except
10 where the military authorities request that such agency be subject to
11 the licensing requirements of this chapter.

12 (3) "Department" means the state department of social and health
13 services.

14 (4) "Juvenile" means a person under the age of twenty-one who has
15 been sentenced to a term of confinement under the supervision of the
16 department under RCW 13.40.185.

17 (5) "Performance-based contracts" or "contracting" means the
18 structuring of all aspects of the procurement of services around the
19 purpose of the work to be performed and the desired results with the
20 contract requirements set forth in clear, specific, and objective terms
21 with measurable outcomes. Contracts may also include provisions that
22 link the performance of the contractor to the level and timing of the
23 reimbursement.

24 (6) "Probationary license" means a license issued as a disciplinary
25 measure to an agency that has previously been issued a full license but
26 is out of compliance with licensing standards.

27 (7) "Requirement" means any rule, regulation, or standard of care
28 to be maintained by an agency.

29 (8) "Resource and assessment center" means an agency that provides
30 short-term emergency and crisis care for a period up to seventy-two
31 hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays to children who have
32 been removed from the care of their parents or guardians by the
33 department or law enforcement;

34 (9) "Secretary" means the secretary of social and health services.

35 ((+9)) (10) "Street youth" means a person under the age of
36 eighteen who lives outdoors or in another unsafe location not intended
37 for occupancy by the minor and who is not residing with his or her
38 parent or at his or her legally authorized residence.

1 (~~(10)~~) (11) "Supervising agency" means an agency licensed by the
2 state under RCW 74.15.090 or an Indian tribe under RCW 74.15.190 that
3 has entered into a performance-based contract with the department to
4 provide child welfare services.

5 (~~(11)~~) (12) "Transitional living services" means at a minimum, to
6 the extent funds are available, the following:

7 (a) Educational services, including basic literacy and
8 computational skills training, either in local alternative or public
9 high schools or in a high school equivalency program that leads to
10 obtaining a high school equivalency degree;

11 (b) Assistance and counseling related to obtaining vocational
12 training or higher education, job readiness, job search assistance, and
13 placement programs;

14 (c) Counseling and instruction in life skills such as money
15 management, home management, consumer skills, parenting, health care,
16 access to community resources, and transportation and housing options;

17 (d) Individual and group counseling; and

18 (e) Establishing networks with federal agencies and state and local
19 organizations such as the United States department of labor, employment
20 and training administration programs including the workforce investment
21 act which administers private industry councils and the job corps;
22 vocational rehabilitation; and volunteer programs.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 74.15 RCW
24 to read as follows:

25 (1) The secretary is authorized to license resource and assessment
26 centers if:

27 (a) There is a demonstrated need in the local community for a
28 resource and assessment center;

29 (b) The resource and assessment center will be primarily staffed by
30 trained volunteers; and

31 (c) The resource and assessment center demonstrates it is not
32 financially dependent on reimbursement from the state to operate.

33 (2) The department may adopt rules to specify licensing
34 requirements for resource and assessment centers. Rules adopted by the
35 department must allow:

36 (a) A sufficient number of trained volunteers to meet staffing
37 requirements;

1 (b) Flexibility in hours of operation and not require the resource
2 and assessment center to be open if there are no children in its care;
3 and

4 (c) The ability to operate in a residential area.

5 (3) Resource and assessment centers licensed under this section
6 may:

7 (a) Provide care for children ages birth through twelve, or for
8 children ages thirteen through seventeen who have a sibling or siblings
9 under thirteen years of age who are being admitted to the resource and
10 assessment center;

11 (b) Operate up to twenty-four hours per day, and for up to seven
12 days per week; and

13 (c) Not be used to address placement disruptions for children with
14 behavior problems already placed in a foster home.

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