

3SHB 1482 - H AMD 836

By Representative Kagi

ADOPTED AS AMENDED 02/14/2018

1 On page 2, beginning on line 26, strike all of section 3 and
2 insert the following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 74.08A
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1)(a) A legislative-executive WorkFirst poverty reduction
6 oversight task force is established, with voting members as provided
7 in this subsection. Task force membership shall include diverse,
8 statewide representation and its membership shall reflect regional,
9 racial, and cultural diversity to adequately represent the needs of
10 all children and families in the state.

11 (i) The president of the senate shall appoint two members from
12 each of the two largest caucuses of the senate.

13 (ii) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint
14 two members from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of
15 representatives.

16 (iii) The governor shall appoint eight members representing the
17 following agencies: The department of social and health services; the
18 department of children, youth, and families; the department of
19 commerce; the employment security department; the office of the
20 superintendent of public instruction; the department of health; the
21 department of corrections; and the state board for community and
22 technical colleges.

23 (b) The task force shall choose its cochairs, one from among the
24 legislative members and one from among the executive branch members.
25 The secretary of the department of social and health services shall
26 convene the initial meeting of the task force.

27 (2) The governor shall appoint five nonvoting members to the task
28 force representing the:

29 (a) Commission on African-American affairs;

30 (b) State commission on Hispanic affairs;

31 (c) State commission on Asian Pacific American affairs;

32 (d) Governor's office of Indian affairs; and

1 (e) Office of financial management.

2 (3) The cochairs of the intergenerational poverty advisory
3 committee created in section 4 of this act shall serve as nonvoting
4 members of the task force.

5 (4) The task force shall:

6 (a) Oversee the partner agencies' operation of the WorkFirst
7 program and temporary assistance for needy families program to ensure
8 that the programs are achieving desired outcomes for their clients;

9 (b) Determine evidence-based outcome measures for the WorkFirst
10 program, including measures related to equitably serving the needs of
11 historically underrepresented populations, such as English language
12 learners, immigrants, refugees, and other diverse communities;

13 (c) Develop accountability measures for WorkFirst recipients and
14 the state agencies responsible for their progress toward self-
15 sufficiency;

16 (d) Collaborate with the advisory committee created in section 4
17 of this act to develop and monitor strategies to prevent and address
18 adverse childhood experiences and reduce intergenerational poverty;

19 (e) Seek input on best practices for poverty reduction from
20 service providers, community-based organizations, legislators, state
21 agencies, stakeholders, the business community, and subject matter
22 experts;

23 (f) Collaborate with partner agencies and the advisory committee
24 to analyze available data and information regarding intergenerational
25 poverty in the state, with a primary focus on data and information
26 regarding children who are at risk of continuing the cycle of poverty
27 and welfare dependency unless outside intervention occurs; and

28 (g) Recommend policy actions to the governor and the legislature
29 to effectively reduce intergenerational poverty.

30 (5)(a) The task force shall direct the department of social and
31 health services to develop a five-year and ten-year plan to address
32 intergenerational poverty, subject to oversight and approval by the
33 task force. Upon approval by the task force, the department must
34 submit the first set of plans to the governor and the appropriate
35 committees of the legislature by December 1, 2019.

36 (b) The task force shall review the five-year and ten-year plans
37 annually and shall direct the department to update the plans as
38 determined necessary by the task force.

39 (6) The partner agencies must provide the task force with regular
40 reports on:

1 (a) The partner agencies' progress toward meeting the outcome and
2 performance measures established under this section;

3 (b) Caseload trends and program expenditures, and the impact of
4 those trends and expenditures on client services, including services
5 to historically underrepresented populations; and

6 (c) The characteristics of families who have been unsuccessful on
7 the temporary assistance for needy families program and have lost
8 their benefits either through sanction or the sixty-month time limit.

9 (7) Staff support for the task force, including administration of
10 task force meetings, must be provided by the state agency members of
11 the task force. Additional staff support for legislative members of
12 the task force must be provided by senate committee services and the
13 house of representatives office of program research.

14 (8) During its tenure, the state agency members of the task force
15 shall respond in a timely manner to data requests from the cochairs.

16 (9) Legislative members of the task force are reimbursed for
17 travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120. Nonlegislative
18 members are not entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses if they
19 are elected officials or participating on behalf of an employer,
20 governmental entity, or other organization. Any reimbursement for
21 other nonlegislative members is subject to chapter 43.03 RCW."

EFFECT: Requires state agency members to provide staff support for the task force, and specifies that the Secretary of the Department of Social and Health Services convenes the initial meeting. Requires Senate Committee Services and the House Office of Program Research to provide additional support to legislative members of the task force. Removes subsections authorizing the task force to establish subcommittees and providing for payment of task force expenses by the Senate and the House.

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