
SENATE BILL 5846

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Senators Niemi, Pelz and Franklin

Read first time 02/17/93. Referred to Committee on Trade, Technology & Economic Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to reemployment support centers administered by the
2 department of community development; and adding a new chapter to Title
3 43 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** It is the intent of the legislature to
6 assist in the creation of local reemployment support centers that would
7 increase the capacity of local communities to aid their unemployed.
8 The centers are intended to supplement but not supplant the efforts of
9 the local job service centers of the employment security department.
10 The legislature intends that the local reemployment support centers
11 established by this chapter shall give first priority to those
12 unemployed persons most likely to exhaust their unemployment
13 compensation benefits or to become long-term unemployed.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The department of community development
15 shall issue requests for proposals to nonprofit agencies or to local
16 government agencies to serve as the local reemployment support centers
17 under this chapter. A minimum of five areas shall be served by the
18 selected agencies. Selected agencies shall receive funds pursuant to

1 this chapter for a two-year period. Selected agencies must offer
2 services in impact areas.

3 (2) As used in this section, "impact areas" means:

4 (a) Distressed counties as defined in RCW 43.165.010(3)(a);

5 (b) Subcounty areas in those counties that are not covered under
6 (a) of this subsection that are timber impact areas as defined in RCW
7 43.31.601;

8 (c) Urban subcounty areas as defined in RCW 43.165.010(3)(c); and

9 (d) Areas not currently experiencing economic distress that the
10 department anticipates as likely to experience distress in the near
11 future, such as areas experiencing defense budget reductions or
12 suffering dislocations from downturns in natural resource-based
13 industries.

14 (3) The department of community development shall establish
15 standards to govern the selection of the reemployment support centers.
16 At a minimum, each local reemployment support center shall raise
17 matching funds in an amount equal to the state grant.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The local reemployment support centers shall
19 provide direct or referral services to the unemployed. The referrals
20 shall be made to agencies that provide any of the following services:

21 (1) Reemployment assistance;

22 (2) Medical services;

23 (3) Social services including marital counseling;

24 (4) Psychotherapy;

25 (5) Mortgage foreclosure and utilities problems counseling;

26 (6) Drug and alcohol abuse services;

27 (7) Credit counseling; and

28 (8) Other services as deemed appropriate.

29 The local reemployment support centers shall demonstrate the use of
30 the services of volunteers to maximize the effectiveness of the
31 centers' programs and outreach efforts to encourage the unemployed to
32 seek assistance.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The employment security department and the
34 department of social and health services shall each locate one or more
35 workers on a full or part-time basis at each local reemployment support
36 center in an effort to increase the effectiveness of the local
37 reemployment centers.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The department of community development
2 shall require each local center that receives funds under this chapter
3 to submit semiannual reports to the department that document the
4 effectiveness of the center's activities.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The referrals and services provided by the
6 centers shall be confidential. Reporting and recordkeeping necessary
7 to file the required reports with the department of community
8 development shall be conducted in a manner that will maintain the
9 confidentiality of the client-provider relationship.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Each local reemployment support center
11 designated by the department under this chapter shall receive a minimum
12 of sixty thousand dollars for a one-year period.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Sections 1 through 7 of this act shall
14 constitute a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.

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