

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT
SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6016

Chapter 289, Laws of 2007

60th Legislature
2007 Regular Session

WORKFIRST--FAILURE TO PARTICIPATE

EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/22/07

Passed by the Senate April 16, 2007
YEAS 30 NAYS 18

BRAD OWEN

President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 11, 2007
YEAS 66 NAYS 31

FRANK CHOPP

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Approved May 2, 2007, 3:06 p.m.

CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6016** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

THOMAS HOEMANN

Secretary

FILED

May 3, 2007

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6016

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2007 Regular Session

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by
Senators Regala and Kohl-Welles)

READ FIRST TIME 03/05/07.

1 AN ACT Relating to good cause reasons for failure to participate in
2 WorkFirst program components; and amending RCW 74.08A.270.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.08A.270 and 2002 c 89 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) Good cause reasons for failure to participate in WorkFirst
7 program components include: (a) Situations where the recipient is a
8 parent or other relative personally providing care for a child under
9 the age of six years, and formal or informal child care, or day care
10 for an incapacitated individual living in the same home as a dependent
11 child, is necessary for an individual to participate or continue
12 participation in the program or accept employment, and such care is not
13 available, and the department fails to provide such care; or (b) the
14 recipient is a parent with a child under the age of one year(~~(, except~~
15 ~~that at the time a child reaches the age of three months, the recipient~~
16 ~~is required to participate in one of the following for up to twenty~~
17 ~~hours per week:~~

18 ~~(i) Instruction or training which has the purpose of improving~~
19 ~~parenting skills or child well-being;~~

1 ~~(ii) Preemployment or job readiness training;~~
2 ~~(iii) Course study leading to a high school diploma or GED; or~~
3 ~~(iv) Volunteering in a child care facility licensed under chapter~~
4 ~~74.15 RCW so long as the child care facility agrees to accept the~~
5 ~~recipient as a volunteer and the child without compensation while the~~
6 ~~parent is volunteering at the facility. The volunteer recipient and~~
7 ~~his or her child shall not be counted for the purposes of determining~~
8 ~~licensed capacity or the staff to child ratio of the facility)).~~

9 (2) A parent claiming a good cause exemption from WorkFirst
10 participation under subsection (1)(b) of this section may be required
11 to participate in one or more of the following, up to a maximum total
12 of twenty hours per week, if such treatment, services, or training is
13 indicated by the comprehensive evaluation or other assessment:

14 (a) Mental health treatment;

15 (b) Alcohol or drug treatment;

16 (c) Domestic violence services; or

17 (d) Parenting education or parenting skills training, if available.

18 (3) The department shall: (a) Work with a parent claiming a good
19 cause exemption under subsection (1)(b) of this section to identify and
20 access programs and services designed to improve parenting skills and
21 promote child well-being, including but not limited to home visitation
22 programs and services; and (b) provide information on the availability
23 of home visitation services to temporary assistance for needy families
24 caseworkers, who shall inform clients of the availability of the
25 services. If desired by the client, the caseworker shall facilitate
26 appropriate referrals to providers of home visitation services.

27 (4) Nothing in this section shall prevent a recipient from
28 participating ((fully)) in the WorkFirst program on a voluntary basis.
29 ((A recipient who chooses to participate fully in the WorkFirst program
30 shall be considered to be fulfilling the requirements of this section.

31 ~~(3) For any recipient who claims a good cause reason for failure to~~
32 ~~participate in the WorkFirst program based on the fact that the~~
33 ~~recipient has a child under the age of one year, the department shall,~~
34 ~~within existing resources, conduct an assessment of the recipient~~
35 ~~within ninety days and before a job search component is initiated in~~
36 ~~order to determine if the recipient has any specific service needs or~~
37 ~~employment barriers. The assessment may include identifying the need~~

1 ~~for substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment, or domestic~~
2 ~~violence services, and shall be used in developing the recipient's~~
3 ~~individual responsibility plan.~~

4 ~~(4) A parent may only receive the exemption under subsection (1)(b)~~
5 ~~of this section one time, for one child.)~~

6 (5) A parent is eligible for a good cause exemption under
7 subsection (1)(b) of this section for a maximum total of twelve months
8 over the parent's lifetime.

Passed by the Senate April 16, 2007.

Passed by the House April 11, 2007.

Approved by the Governor May 2, 2007.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 3, 2007.