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HOUSE BILL 2848

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State of Washington                      53rd Legislature                      1994 Regular Session

By Representatives L. Johnson and Cothern

Read first time 01/26/94. Referred to Committee on Human Services.

1            AN ACT Relating to recipients of public assistance; amending RCW  
2 74.08.560; and creating new sections.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the state should  
5 encourage, within the limit of available funds, the adoption of hard to  
6 place children to make it possible for children living in, or likely to  
7 be placed in, foster homes or institutions to benefit from the  
8 stability and security of permanent homes in which the children can  
9 receive continuous parental care, guidance, protection, and love and to  
10 reduce the number of children who must be placed or remain in foster  
11 homes or institutions until they become adults. The legislature  
12 further finds that many recipients of aid to families with dependent  
13 children may have an interest in adopting these children and providing  
14 them with a loving home.

15            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.** The department of social and health services  
16 shall screen recipients of aid to families with dependent children to  
17 determine if any current recipient is interested in adopting a child  
18 with a developmental disability or a child who is hard to place and is

1 currently living in foster care, group care, or in an institution. The  
2 department of social and health services shall facilitate such  
3 adoptions if it is in the best interests of the child and the  
4 prospective adoptive parent.

5 **Sec. 3.** RCW 74.08.560 and 1983 c 3 s 190 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 In developing the program set forth in RCW 74.08.550, the  
8 department shall, to the extent possible, and consistent with federal  
9 law, enlist the services of persons receiving grants under the  
10 provisions of chapter 74.08 RCW and chapter 74.12 RCW to carry out the  
11 services enumerated under RCW 74.08.541. To this end, the department  
12 shall establish appropriate rules and regulations designed to determine  
13 eligibility for employment under this section, as well as regulations  
14 designed to notify persons receiving such grants of eligibility for  
15 such employment. The department shall further establish a system of  
16 compensation to persons employed under the provisions of this section  
17 which provides that any grants they receive under chapter 74.08 RCW or  
18 chapter 74.12 RCW shall be diminished by such percentage of the  
19 compensation received under this section as the department shall  
20 establish by rules and regulations. The department shall develop  
21 incentives for persons receiving grants under chapter 74.08 or 74.12  
22 RCW to encourage their participation. The department shall also  
23 negotiate target levels of participation by recipients of grants under  
24 chapter 74.08 or 74.12 RCW with chore service providers when the  
25 providers' contract is renegotiated by the department.

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