

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT  
**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6208**

Chapter 296, Laws of 1998  
(partial veto)

55th Legislature  
1998 Regular Session

AT-RISK YOUTH

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/11/98

Passed by the Senate March 9, 1998  
YEAS 34 NAYS 9

BRAD OWEN

\_\_\_\_\_  
**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House March 6, 1998  
YEAS 98 NAYS 0

CLYDE BALLARD

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Speaker of the  
House of Representatives**

Approved April 2, 1998, with the  
exception of sections 2, 3, 5, 10, 41  
and 42, which are vetoed.

GARY LOCKE

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Mike O Connell, Secretary of the  
Senate of the State of Washington, do  
hereby certify that the attached is  
**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6208** as passed  
by the Senate and the House of  
Representatives on the dates hereon  
set forth.

MIKE O'CONNELL

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Secretary**

FILED

April 2, 1998 - 2:37 p.m.

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6208**

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AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 1998 Regular Session

**State of Washington**                      **55th Legislature**                      **1998 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senators Hargrove, Long, Franklin, Winsley and Oke)

Read first time 02/06/98.

1        AN ACT Relating to at-risk youth; amending RCW 74.13.032,  
2 71.34.010, 71.34.020, 71.34.025, 71.34.030, 70.96A.095, 70.96A.097,  
3 7.21.030, 13.32A.250, 13.34.165, 28A.225.090, 13.32A.080, and  
4 13.32A.082; reenacting and amending RCW 74.13.031 and 70.96A.020;  
5 adding new sections to chapter 71.34 RCW; adding new sections to  
6 chapter 74.13 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 70.96A RCW; creating  
7 new sections; and providing an expiration date.

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

9                      **PART I - CRISIS RESIDENTIAL CENTERS AND STAFF-SECURE**  
10    **TREATMENT CENTERS**

11        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW  
12 to read as follows:

13        Any county or group of counties may make application to the  
14 department of social and health services in the manner and form  
15 prescribed by the department to administer and provide the services  
16 established under RCW 13.32A.197. Any such application must include a  
17 plan or plans for providing such services to at-risk youth.

1        *\*NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW*  
2 *to read as follows:*

3        *No county may receive any state funds provided by section 1 of this*  
4 *act until its application and plan are received by the department.*

5        *(1) The distribution of funds to a county or a group of counties*  
6 *shall be based on criteria including but not limited to the county's*  
7 *per capita income, regional or county at-risk populations, rates of*  
8 *poverty, and the presence of existing programs serving at-risk*  
9 *children.*

10        *(2) The secretary of social and health services shall reimburse a*  
11 *county upon presentation and approval of a valid claim pursuant to this*  
12 *chapter based on actual performance in meeting the terms and conditions*  
13 *of the approved plan and contract. Funds received by participating*  
14 *counties under this chapter shall not be used to replace local funds*  
15 *for existing programs.*

16        *(3) Funds available for county-operated staff-secure facilities and*  
17 *services under RCW 13.32A.197 shall not exceed the appropriation for*  
18 *these services specified in the biennial operating budget.*

19 *\*Sec. 2 was vetoed. See message at end of chapter.*

20        *\*Sec. 3. RCW 74.13.031 and 1997 c 386 s 32 and 1997 c 272 s 1 are*  
21 *each reenacted and amended to read as follows:*

22        *The department shall have the duty to provide child welfare*  
23 *services and shall:*

24        *(1) Develop, administer, supervise, and monitor a coordinated and*  
25 *comprehensive plan that establishes, aids, and strengthens services for*  
26 *the protection and care of homeless, runaway, dependent, or neglected*  
27 *children.*

28        *(2) Within available resources, recruit an adequate number of*  
29 *prospective adoptive and foster homes, both regular and specialized,*  
30 *i.e. homes for children of ethnic minority, including Indian homes for*  
31 *Indian children, sibling groups, handicapped and emotionally disturbed,*  
32 *teens, pregnant and parenting teens, and annually report to the*  
33 *governor and the legislature concerning the department's success in:*  
34 *(a) Meeting the need for adoptive and foster home placements; (b)*  
35 *reducing the foster parent turnover rate; (c) completing home studies*  
36 *for legally free children; and (d) implementing and operating the*  
37 *passport program required by RCW 74.13.285. The report shall include*  
38 *a section entitled "Foster Home Turn-Over, Causes and Recommendations."*

1       (3) Investigate complaints of alleged neglect, abuse, or  
2 abandonment of children, and on the basis of the findings of such  
3 investigation, offer child welfare services in relation to the problem  
4 to such parents, legal custodians, or persons serving in loco parentis,  
5 and/or bring the situation to the attention of an appropriate court, or  
6 another community agency: PROVIDED, That an investigation is not  
7 required of nonaccidental injuries which are clearly not the result of  
8 a lack of care or supervision by the child's parents, legal custodians,  
9 or persons serving in loco parentis. If the investigation reveals that  
10 a crime may have been committed, the department shall notify the  
11 appropriate law enforcement agency.

12       (4) Offer, on a voluntary basis, family reconciliation services to  
13 families who are in conflict.

14       (5) Monitor out-of-home placements, on a timely and routine basis,  
15 to assure the safety, well-being, and quality of care being provided is  
16 within the scope of the intent of the legislature as defined in RCW  
17 74.13.010 and 74.15.010, and annually submit a report measuring the  
18 extent to which the department achieved the specified goals to the  
19 governor and the legislature.

20       (6) Have authority to accept custody of children from parents and  
21 to accept custody of children from juvenile courts, where authorized to  
22 do so under law, to provide child welfare services including placement  
23 for adoption, and to provide for the physical care of such children and  
24 make payment of maintenance costs if needed. Except where required by  
25 Public Law 95-608 (25 U.S.C. Sec. 1915), no private adoption agency  
26 which receives children for adoption from the department shall  
27 discriminate on the basis of race, creed, or color when considering  
28 applications in their placement for adoption.

29       (7) Have authority to provide temporary shelter to children who  
30 have run away from home and who are admitted to crisis residential  
31 centers.

32       (8) Have authority to purchase care for children; and shall follow  
33 in general the policy of using properly approved private agency  
34 services for the actual care and supervision of such children insofar  
35 as they are available, paying for care of such children as are accepted  
36 by the department as eligible for support at reasonable rates  
37 established by the department.

38       (9) Establish a children's services advisory committee which shall  
39 assist the secretary in the development of a partnership plan for

1 utilizing resources of the public and private sectors, and advise on  
2 all matters pertaining to child welfare, licensing of child care  
3 agencies, adoption, and services related thereto. At least one member  
4 shall represent the adoption community.

5 (10) Have authority to provide continued foster care or group care  
6 for individuals from eighteen through twenty years of age to enable  
7 them to complete their high school or vocational school program.

8 (11) Have authority within funds appropriated for foster care  
9 services to purchase care for Indian children who are in the custody of  
10 a federally recognized Indian tribe or tribally licensed child-placing  
11 agency pursuant to parental consent, tribal court order, or state  
12 juvenile court order; and the purchase of such care shall be subject to  
13 the same eligibility standards and rates of support applicable to other  
14 children for whom the department purchases care.

15 (12) Provide funding for counties to operate treatment facilities  
16 and provide treatment services to children who have been ordered placed  
17 in a staff secure facility under RCW 13.32A.197.

18 Notwithstanding any other provision of RCW 13.32A.170 through  
19 13.32A.200 and 74.13.032 through 74.13.036, or of this section all  
20 services to be provided by the department of social and health services  
21 under subsections (4), (6), and (7) of this section, or counties under  
22 subsection (12) of this section, subject to the limitations of these  
23 subsections, may be provided by any program offering such services  
24 funded pursuant to Titles II and III of the federal juvenile justice  
25 and delinquency prevention act of 1974.

26 \*Sec. 3 was vetoed. See message at end of chapter.

27 **Sec. 4.** RCW 74.13.032 and 1995 c 312 s 60 are each amended to read  
28 as follows:

29 (1) The department shall establish, by contracts with private or  
30 public vendors, regional crisis residential centers with semi-secure  
31 facilities. These facilities shall be structured group care facilities  
32 licensed under rules adopted by the department and shall have an  
33 average of at least four adult staff members and in no event less than  
34 three adult staff members to every eight children.

35 (2) Within available funds appropriated for this purpose, the  
36 department shall establish, by contracts with private or public  
37 vendors, regional crisis residential centers with secure facilities.  
38 These facilities shall be facilities licensed under rules adopted by

1 the department. These centers may also include semi-secure facilities  
2 and to such extent shall be subject to subsection (1) of this section.

3 (3) The department shall, in addition to the facilities established  
4 under subsections (1) and (2) of this section, establish additional  
5 crisis residential centers pursuant to contract with licensed private  
6 group care facilities.

7 (4) The staff at the facilities established under this section  
8 shall be trained so that they may effectively counsel juveniles  
9 admitted to the centers, provide treatment, supervision, and structure  
10 to the juveniles that recognize the need for support and the varying  
11 circumstances that cause children to leave their families, and carry  
12 out the responsibilities stated in RCW 13.32A.090. The  
13 responsibilities stated in RCW 13.32A.090 may, in any of the centers,  
14 be carried out by the department.

15 (5) The secure facilities located within crisis residential centers  
16 shall be operated to conform with the definition in RCW 13.32A.030.  
17 The facilities shall have an average of no ~~((more))~~ less than ~~((three))~~  
18 one adult staff member~~((s))~~ to every ~~((eight))~~ ten children. The  
19 staffing ratio shall continue to ensure the safety of the children.

20 ~~((A center with secure facilities created under this section  
21 may not be located within, or on the same grounds as, other secure  
22 structures including jails, juvenile detention facilities operated by  
23 the state, or units of local government. However, the secretary may,  
24 following consultation with the appropriate county legislative  
25 authority, make a written finding that location of a center with secure  
26 facilities on the same grounds as another secure structure is the only  
27 practical location for a secure facility. Upon the written finding a  
28 secure facility may be located on the same grounds as the secure  
29 structure. Where))~~ If a secure crisis residential center is located in  
30 or adjacent to a secure juvenile detention facility, the center shall  
31 be operated in a manner that prevents in-person contact between the  
32 residents of the center and the persons held in such facility.

33 ***\*NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW  
34 to read as follows:***

35 ***(1) A county or group of counties operating a staff-secure facility  
36 under sections 1 and 2 of this act shall establish, by contracts with  
37 private or public vendors, treatment centers with staff secure***

1 facilities. These facilities shall be structured group care facilities  
2 licensed under rules adopted by the department.

3 (2) The staff at the facilities established under RCW 13.32A.197  
4 shall be trained so that they may effectively counsel, supervise,  
5 provide treatment for behavioral difficulties or needs, and provide  
6 structure to the juveniles admitted to treatment facilities. The  
7 treatment, supervision, and counseling must recognize the need for  
8 support and the varying circumstances that cause children to leave  
9 their families.

10 (3) Juveniles shall be admitted to the facilities based on a court  
11 order for placement at a staff secure facility to receive treatment  
12 under RCW 13.32A.197. Juveniles shall not be denied admission based on  
13 their county of residence.

14 \*Sec. 5 was vetoed. See message at end of chapter.

## 15 PART II - MENTAL HEALTH AND CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY TREATMENT

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The legislature finds it is often necessary  
17 for parents to obtain mental health or chemical dependency treatment  
18 for their minor children prior to the time the child's condition  
19 presents a likelihood of serious harm or the child becomes gravely  
20 disabled. The legislature finds that treatment of such conditions is  
21 not the equivalent of incarceration or detention, but is a legitimate  
22 act of parental discretion, when supported by decisions of credentialed  
23 professionals. The legislature finds that, consistent with *Parham v.*  
24 *J.R.*, 442 U.S. 584 (1979), state action is not involved in the  
25 determination of a parent and professional person to admit a minor  
26 child to treatment and finds this act provides sufficient independent  
27 review by the department of social and health services, as a neutral  
28 fact-finder, to protect the interests of all parties. The legislature  
29 intends and recognizes that children affected by the provisions of this  
30 act are not children whose mental or substance abuse problems are  
31 adequately addressed by chapters 70.96A and 71.34 RCW. Therefore, the  
32 legislature finds it is necessary to provide parents a statutory  
33 process, other than the petition process provided in chapters 70.96A  
34 and 71.34 RCW, to obtain treatment for their minor children without the  
35 consent of the children.

36 The legislature finds that differing standards of admission and  
37 review in parent-initiated mental health and chemical dependency

1 treatment for their minor children are necessary and the admission  
2 standards and procedures under state involuntary treatment procedures  
3 are not adequate to provide safeguards for the safety and well-being of  
4 all children. The legislature finds the timeline for admission and  
5 reviews under existing law do not provide sufficient opportunities for  
6 assessment of the mental health and chemically dependent status of  
7 every minor child and that additional time and different standards will  
8 facilitate the likelihood of successful treatment of children who are  
9 in need of assistance but unwilling to obtain it voluntarily. The  
10 legislature finds there are children whose behavior presents a clear  
11 need of medical treatment but is not so extreme as to require immediate  
12 state intervention under the state involuntary treatment procedures.

13

#### PART II-A - MENTAL HEALTH

14 **Sec. 7.** RCW 71.34.010 and 1992 c 205 s 302 are each amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 It is the purpose of this chapter to ~~((ensure))~~ assure that minors  
17 in need of mental health care and treatment receive an appropriate  
18 continuum of culturally relevant care and treatment, ~~((from))~~ including  
19 prevention and early intervention ~~((to))~~, self-directed care, parent-  
20 directed care, and involuntary treatment. To facilitate the continuum  
21 of care and treatment to minors in out-of-home placements, all  
22 divisions of the department that provide mental health services to  
23 minors shall jointly plan and deliver those services.

24 It is also the purpose of this chapter to protect the rights of  
25 minors against needless hospitalization and deprivations of liberty and  
26 to enable treatment decisions to be made in response to clinical needs  
27 in accordance with sound professional judgment. The mental health care  
28 and treatment providers shall encourage the use of voluntary services  
29 and, whenever clinically appropriate, the providers shall offer less  
30 restrictive alternatives to inpatient treatment. Additionally, all  
31 mental health care and treatment providers shall ~~((ensure))~~ assure that  
32 minors' parents are given an opportunity to participate in the  
33 treatment decisions for their minor children. The mental health care  
34 and treatment providers shall, to the extent possible, offer services  
35 that involve minors' parents or family.

36 It is also the purpose of this chapter to assure the ability of  
37 parents to exercise reasonable, compassionate care and control of their



1 minor children when there is a medical necessity for treatment and  
2 without the requirement of filing a petition under this chapter.

3 **Sec. 8.** RCW 71.34.020 and 1985 c 354 s 2 are each amended to read  
4 as follows:

5 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in  
6 this section apply throughout this chapter.

7 (1) "Child psychiatrist" means a person having a license as a  
8 physician and surgeon in this state, who has had graduate training in  
9 child psychiatry in a program approved by the American Medical  
10 Association or the American Osteopathic Association, and who is board  
11 eligible or board certified in child psychiatry.

12 (2) "Children's mental health specialist" means:

13 (a) A mental health professional who has completed a minimum of one  
14 hundred actual hours, not quarter or semester hours, of specialized  
15 training devoted to the study of child development and the treatment of  
16 children; and

17 (b) A mental health professional who has the equivalent of one year  
18 of full-time experience in the treatment of children under the  
19 supervision of a children's mental health specialist.

20 (3) "Commitment" means a determination by a judge or court  
21 commissioner, made after a commitment hearing, that the minor is in  
22 need of inpatient diagnosis, evaluation, or treatment or that the minor  
23 is in need of less restrictive alternative treatment.

24 (4) "County-designated mental health professional" means a mental  
25 health professional designated by one or more counties to perform the  
26 functions of a county-designated mental health professional described  
27 in this chapter.

28 (5) "Department" means the department of social and health  
29 services.

30 (6) "Evaluation and treatment facility" means a public or private  
31 facility or unit that is certified by the department to provide  
32 emergency, inpatient, residential, or outpatient mental health  
33 evaluation and treatment services for minors. A physically separate  
34 and separately-operated portion of a state hospital may be designated  
35 as an evaluation and treatment facility for minors. A facility which  
36 is part of or operated by the department or federal agency does not  
37 require certification. No correctional institution or facility,

1 juvenile court detention facility, or jail may be an evaluation and  
2 treatment facility within the meaning of this chapter.

3 (7) "Evaluation and treatment program" means the total system of  
4 services and facilities coordinated and approved by a county or  
5 combination of counties for the evaluation and treatment of minors  
6 under this chapter.

7 (8) "Gravely disabled minor" means a minor who, as a result of a  
8 mental disorder, is in danger of serious physical harm resulting from  
9 a failure to provide for his or her essential human needs of health or  
10 safety, or manifests severe deterioration in routine functioning  
11 evidenced by repeated and escalating loss of cognitive or volitional  
12 control over his or her actions and is not receiving such care as is  
13 essential for his or her health or safety.

14 (9) "Inpatient treatment" means twenty-four-hour-per-day mental  
15 health care provided within a general hospital, psychiatric hospital,  
16 or residential treatment facility certified by the department as an  
17 evaluation and treatment facility for minors.

18 (10) "Less restrictive alternative" or "less restrictive setting"  
19 means outpatient treatment provided to a minor who is not residing in  
20 a facility providing inpatient treatment as defined in this chapter.

21 (11) "Likelihood of serious harm" means either: (a) A substantial  
22 risk that physical harm will be inflicted by an individual upon his or  
23 her own person, as evidenced by threats or attempts to commit suicide  
24 or inflict physical harm on oneself; (b) a substantial risk that  
25 physical harm will be inflicted by an individual upon another, as  
26 evidenced by behavior which has caused such harm or which places  
27 another person or persons in reasonable fear of sustaining such harm;  
28 or (c) a substantial risk that physical harm will be inflicted by an  
29 individual upon the property of others, as evidenced by behavior which  
30 has caused substantial loss or damage to the property of others.

31 (12) "Medical necessity" for inpatient care means a requested  
32 service which is reasonably calculated to: (a) Diagnose, correct,  
33 cure, or alleviate a mental disorder; or (b) prevent the worsening of  
34 mental conditions that endanger life or cause suffering and pain, or  
35 result in illness or infirmity or threaten to cause or aggravate a  
36 handicap, or cause physical deformity or malfunction, and there is no  
37 adequate less restrictive alternative available.

38 (13) "Mental disorder" means any organic, mental, or emotional  
39 impairment that has substantial adverse effects on an individual's

1 cognitive or volitional functions. The presence of alcohol abuse, drug  
2 abuse, juvenile criminal history, antisocial behavior, or mental  
3 retardation alone is insufficient to justify a finding of "mental  
4 disorder" within the meaning of this section.

5 ~~((13))~~ (14) "Mental health professional" means a psychiatrist,  
6 psychologist, psychiatric nurse, or social worker, and such other  
7 mental health professionals as may be defined by rules adopted by the  
8 secretary under this chapter.

9 ~~((14))~~ (15) "Minor" means any person under the age of eighteen  
10 years.

11 ~~((15))~~ (16) "Outpatient treatment" means any of the  
12 nonresidential services mandated under chapter 71.24 RCW and provided  
13 by licensed services providers as identified by RCW 71.24.025(3).

14 ~~((16))~~ (17) "Parent" means:

15 (a) A biological or adoptive parent who has legal custody of the  
16 child, including either parent if custody is shared under a joint  
17 custody agreement; or

18 (b) A person or agency judicially appointed as legal guardian or  
19 custodian of the child.

20 ~~((17))~~ (18) "Professional person in charge" or "professional  
21 person" means a physician or other mental health professional empowered  
22 by an evaluation and treatment facility with authority to make  
23 admission and discharge decisions on behalf of that facility.

24 ~~((18))~~ (19) "Psychiatric nurse" means a registered nurse who has  
25 a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, and who  
26 has had, in addition, at least two years' experience in the direct  
27 treatment of mentally ill or emotionally disturbed persons, such  
28 experience gained under the supervision of a mental health  
29 professional. "Psychiatric nurse" shall also mean any other registered  
30 nurse who has three years of such experience.

31 ~~((19))~~ (20) "Psychiatrist" means a person having a license as a  
32 physician in this state who has completed residency training in  
33 psychiatry in a program approved by the American Medical Association or  
34 the American Osteopathic Association, and is board eligible or board  
35 certified in psychiatry.

36 ~~((20))~~ (21) "Psychologist" means a person licensed as a  
37 psychologist under chapter 18.83 RCW.

1       (~~(21)~~) (22) "Responsible other" means the minor, the minor's  
2 parent or estate, or any other person legally responsible for support  
3 of the minor.

4       (~~(22)~~) (23) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department or  
5 secretary's designee.

6       (~~(23)~~) (24) "Start of initial detention" means the time of  
7 arrival of the minor at the first evaluation and treatment facility  
8 offering inpatient treatment if the minor is being involuntarily  
9 detained at the time. With regard to voluntary patients, "start of  
10 initial detention" means the time at which the minor gives notice of  
11 intent to leave under the provisions of this chapter.

12       **Sec. 9.** RCW 71.34.025 and 1995 c 312 s 56 are each amended to read  
13 as follows:

14       (1) (~~The admission of any child under RCW 71.34.030 may be~~  
15 ~~reviewed by the county designated mental health professional between~~  
16 ~~fifteen and thirty days following admission. The county designated~~  
17 ~~mental health professional may undertake the review on his or her own~~  
18 ~~initiative and may seek reimbursement from the parents, their~~  
19 ~~insurance, or medicaid for the expense of the review.~~

20       (2)) The department shall (~~ensure~~) assure that, for any minor  
21 admitted to inpatient treatment under section 17 of this act, a review  
22 is conducted (~~no later than sixty days~~) by a physician or other  
23 mental health professional who is employed by the department, or an  
24 agency under contract with the department, and who neither has a  
25 financial interest in continued inpatient treatment of the minor nor is  
26 affiliated with the facility providing the treatment. The physician or  
27 other mental health professional shall conduct the review not less than  
28 seven nor more than fourteen days following (~~admission~~) the date the  
29 minor was brought to the facility under section 17 of this act to  
30 determine whether it is (~~medically appropriate~~) a medical necessity  
31 to continue the (~~child's~~) minor's treatment on an inpatient basis.  
32 (~~The department may, subject to available funds, contract with a~~  
33 ~~county for the conduct of the review conducted under this subsection~~  
34 ~~and may seek reimbursement from the parents, their insurance, or~~  
35 ~~medicaid for the expense of any review conducted by an agency under~~  
36 ~~contract.~~

37       If the county designated mental health professional determines that  
38 continued inpatient treatment of the child is no longer medically

1 appropriate, the professional shall notify the facility, the child, the  
2 child's parents, and the department of the finding within twenty-four  
3 hours of the determination.

4 ~~(3) For purposes of eligibility for medical assistance under  
5 chapter 74.09 RCW, children in inpatient mental health or chemical  
6 dependency treatment shall be considered to be part of their parent's  
7 or legal guardian's household, unless the child has been assessed by  
8 the department of social and health services or its designee as likely  
9 to require such treatment for at least ninety consecutive days, or is  
10 in out-of-home care in accordance with chapter 13.34 RCW, or the  
11 child's parents are found to not be exercising responsibility for care  
12 and control of the child. Payment for such care by the department of  
13 social and health services shall be made only in accordance with rules,  
14 guidelines, and clinical criteria applicable to inpatient treatment of  
15 minors established by the department.)~~

16 (2) In making a determination under subsection (1) of this section,  
17 the department shall consider the opinion of the treatment provider,  
18 the safety of the minor, and the likelihood the minor's mental health  
19 will deteriorate if released from inpatient treatment. The department  
20 shall consult with the parent in advance of making its determination.

21 (3) If, after any review conducted by the department under this  
22 section, the department determines it is no longer a medical necessity  
23 for a minor to receive inpatient treatment, the department shall  
24 immediately notify the parents and the facility. The facility shall  
25 release the minor to the parents within twenty-four hours of receiving  
26 notice. If the professional person in charge and the parent believe  
27 that it is a medical necessity for the minor to remain in inpatient  
28 treatment, the minor shall be released to the parent on the second  
29 judicial day following the department's determination in order to allow  
30 the parent time to file an at-risk youth petition under chapter 13.32A  
31 RCW. If the department determines it is a medical necessity for the  
32 minor to receive outpatient treatment and the minor declines to obtain  
33 such treatment, such refusal shall be grounds for the parent to file an  
34 at-risk youth petition.

35 (4) If the evaluation conducted under section 17 of this act is  
36 done by the department, the reviews required by subsection (1) of this  
37 section shall be done by contract with an independent agency.

38 (5) The department may, subject to available funds, contract with  
39 other governmental agencies to conduct the reviews under this section.

1 The department may seek reimbursement from the parents, their  
2 insurance, or medicaid for the expense of any review conducted by an  
3 agency under contract.

4 (6) In addition to the review required under this section, the  
5 department may periodically determine and redetermine the medical  
6 necessity of treatment for purposes of payment with public funds.

7 ***\*NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. A new section is added to chapter 71.34***  
8 ***RCW to read as follows:***

9 ***For the purpose of gathering information related to parent-***  
10 ***initiated mental health treatment, the department shall report to the***  
11 ***appropriate committees of the legislature by December 1 of each year***  
12 ***the following information:***

13 ***(1) The total number of parent-initiated admissions of minors to***  
14 ***evaluation and treatment facilities under section 17 of this act for***  
15 ***the prior year;***

16 ***(2) The number of minors in the prior year admitted to evaluation***  
17 ***or treatment facilities under section 17 of this act who are released***  
18 ***from treatment, pursuant to RCW 71.34.025(3), because the department***  
19 ***determined that it was not a medical necessity to continue the minor's***  
20 ***treatment on an inpatient basis;***

21 ***(3) The lengths of time in treatment for minors admitted in the***  
22 ***prior year to evaluation and treatment facilities under section 17 of***  
23 ***this act.***

24 ***\*Sec. 10 was vetoed. See message at end of chapter.***

25 ***NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. A new section is added to chapter 71.34 RCW***  
26 ***to read as follows:***

27 ***For purposes of eligibility for medical assistance under chapter***  
28 ***74.09 RCW, minors in inpatient mental health treatment shall be***  
29 ***considered to be part of their parent's or legal guardian's household,***  
30 ***unless the minor has been assessed by the department or its designee as***  
31 ***likely to require such treatment for at least ninety consecutive days,***  
32 ***or is in out-of-home care in accordance with chapter 13.34 RCW, or the***  
33 ***parents are found to not be exercising responsibility for care and***  
34 ***control of the minor. Payment for such care by the department shall be***  
35 ***made only in accordance with rules, guidelines, and clinical criteria***  
36 ***applicable to inpatient treatment of minors established by the***  
37 ***department.***

1                   PART II-B - VOLUNTARY MENTAL HEALTH OUTPATIENT TREATMENT

2           **Sec. 12.** RCW 71.34.030 and 1995 c 312 s 52 are each amended to  
3 read as follows:

4           ~~((1))~~ Any minor thirteen years or older may request and receive  
5 outpatient treatment without the consent of the minor's parent.  
6 Parental authorization is required for outpatient treatment of a minor  
7 under the age of thirteen.

8           ~~((2) When in the judgment of the professional person in charge of  
9 an evaluation and treatment facility there is reason to believe that a  
10 minor is in need of inpatient treatment because of a mental disorder,  
11 and the facility provides the type of evaluation and treatment needed  
12 by the minor, and it is not feasible to treat the minor in any less  
13 restrictive setting or the minor's home, the minor may be admitted to  
14 an evaluation and treatment facility in accordance with the following  
15 requirements:~~

16           ~~(a) A minor may be voluntarily admitted by application of the  
17 parent. The consent of the minor is not required for the minor to be  
18 evaluated and admitted as appropriate.~~

19           ~~(b) A minor thirteen years or older may, with the concurrence of  
20 the professional person in charge of an evaluation and treatment  
21 facility, admit himself or herself without parental consent to the  
22 evaluation and treatment facility, provided that notice is given by the  
23 facility to the minor's parent in accordance with the following  
24 requirements:~~

25           ~~(i) Notice of the minor's admission shall be in the form most  
26 likely to reach the parent within twenty four hours of the minor's  
27 voluntary admission and shall advise the parent that the minor has been  
28 admitted to inpatient treatment; the location and telephone number of  
29 the facility providing such treatment; and the name of a professional  
30 person on the staff of the facility providing treatment who is  
31 designated to discuss the minor's need for inpatient treatment with the  
32 parent.~~

33           ~~(ii) The minor shall be released to the parent at the parent's  
34 request for release unless the facility files a petition with the  
35 superior court of the county in which treatment is being provided  
36 setting forth the basis for the facility's belief that the minor is in  
37 need of inpatient treatment and that release would constitute a threat  
38 to the minor's health or safety.~~

1       ~~(iii) The petition shall be signed by the professional person in~~  
2 ~~charge of the facility or that person's designee.~~

3       ~~(iv) The parent may apply to the court for separate counsel to~~  
4 ~~represent the parent if the parent cannot afford counsel.~~

5       ~~(v) There shall be a hearing on the petition, which shall be held~~  
6 ~~within three judicial days from the filing of the petition.~~

7       ~~(vi) The hearing shall be conducted by a judge, court commissioner,~~  
8 ~~or licensed attorney designated by the superior court as a hearing~~  
9 ~~officer for such hearing. The hearing may be held at the treatment~~  
10 ~~facility.~~

11       ~~(vii) At such hearing, the facility must demonstrate by a~~  
12 ~~preponderance of the evidence presented at the hearing that the minor~~  
13 ~~is in need of inpatient treatment and that release would constitute a~~  
14 ~~threat to the minor's health or safety. The hearing shall not be~~  
15 ~~conducted using the rules of evidence, and the admission or exclusion~~  
16 ~~of evidence sought to be presented shall be within the exercise of~~  
17 ~~sound discretion by the judicial officer conducting the hearing.~~

18       ~~(c) Written renewal of voluntary consent must be obtained from the~~  
19 ~~applicant no less than once every twelve months.~~

20       ~~(d) The minor's need for continued inpatient treatments shall be~~  
21 ~~reviewed and documented no less than every one hundred eighty days.~~

22       ~~(3) A notice of intent to leave shall result in the following:~~

23       ~~(a) Any minor under the age of thirteen must be discharged~~  
24 ~~immediately upon written request of the parent.~~

25       ~~(b) Any minor thirteen years or older voluntarily admitted may give~~  
26 ~~notice of intent to leave at any time. The notice need not follow any~~  
27 ~~specific form so long as it is written and the intent of the minor can~~  
28 ~~be discerned.~~

29       ~~(c) The staff member receiving the notice shall date it~~  
30 ~~immediately, record its existence in the minor's clinical record, and~~  
31 ~~send copies of it to the minor's attorney, if any, the county-~~  
32 ~~designated mental health professional, and the parent.~~

33       ~~(d) The professional person in charge of the evaluation and~~  
34 ~~treatment facility shall discharge the minor, thirteen years or older,~~  
35 ~~from the facility within twenty-four hours after receipt of the minor's~~  
36 ~~notice of intent to leave, unless the county-designated mental health~~  
37 ~~professional or a parent or legal guardian files a petition or an~~  
38 ~~application for initial detention within the time prescribed by this~~  
39 ~~chapter.~~



1       ~~(4) The ability of a parent to apply to a certified evaluation and~~  
2 ~~treatment program for the involuntary admission of his or her minor~~  
3 ~~child does not create a right to obtain or benefit from any funds or~~  
4 ~~resources of the state. However, the state may provide services for~~  
5 ~~indigent minors to the extent that funds are available therefor.))~~

6       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 13.** For the purpose of gathering information  
7 related to parental notification of outpatient mental health treatment  
8 of minors, the department of health shall conduct a survey of providers  
9 of outpatient treatment, as defined in chapter 71.34 RCW. The survey  
10 shall gather information from a statistically valid sample of  
11 providers. In accordance with confidentiality statutes and the  
12 physician-patient privilege, the survey shall secure information from  
13 the providers related to:

- 14       (1) The number of minors receiving outpatient treatment;
- 15       (2) The number of parents of minors in treatment notified of the  
16 minor's treatment;
- 17       (3) The average number of outpatient visits prior to parental  
18 notification;
- 19       (4) The average number of treatments with parental notification;
- 20       (5) The average number of treatments without parental notification;
- 21       (6) The percentage of minors in treatment who are prescribed  
22 medication;
- 23       (7) The medication prescribed;
- 24       (8) The number of patients terminating treatment due to parental  
25 notification; and
- 26       (9) Any other pertinent information.

27       The department shall submit the survey results to the governor and  
28 the appropriate committees of the legislature by December 1, 1998.

29       This section expires June 1, 1999.

30                   **PART II-C - VOLUNTARY MENTAL HEALTH INPATIENT TREATMENT**

31       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 14.** A new section is added to chapter 71.34 RCW  
32 to read as follows:

- 33       (1) A minor thirteen years or older may admit himself or herself to  
34 an evaluation and treatment facility for inpatient mental treatment,  
35 without parental consent. The admission shall occur only if the

1 professional person in charge of the facility concurs with the need for  
2 inpatient treatment.

3 (2) When, in the judgment of the professional person in charge of  
4 an evaluation and treatment facility, there is reason to believe that  
5 a minor is in need of inpatient treatment because of a mental disorder,  
6 and the facility provides the type of evaluation and treatment needed  
7 by the minor, and it is not feasible to treat the minor in any less  
8 restrictive setting or the minor's home, the minor may be admitted to  
9 an evaluation and treatment facility.

10 (3) Written renewal of voluntary consent must be obtained from the  
11 applicant no less than once every twelve months. The minor's need for  
12 continued inpatient treatments shall be reviewed and documented no less  
13 than every one hundred eighty days.

14 NEW SECTION. Sec. 15. A new section is added to chapter 71.34 RCW  
15 to read as follows:

16 The administrator of the treatment facility shall provide notice to  
17 the parents of a minor when the minor is voluntarily admitted to  
18 inpatient treatment under section 14 of this act. The notice shall be  
19 in the form most likely to reach the parent within twenty-four hours of  
20 the minor's voluntary admission and shall advise the parent: (1) That  
21 the minor has been admitted to inpatient treatment; (2) of the location  
22 and telephone number of the facility providing such treatment; (3) of  
23 the name of a professional person on the staff of the facility  
24 providing treatment who is designated to discuss the minor's need for  
25 inpatient treatment with the parent; and (4) of the medical necessity  
26 for admission.

27 NEW SECTION. Sec. 16. A new section is added to chapter 71.34 RCW  
28 to read as follows:

29 (1) Any minor thirteen years or older voluntarily admitted to an  
30 evaluation and treatment facility under section 14 of this act may give  
31 notice of intent to leave at any time. The notice need not follow any  
32 specific form so long as it is written and the intent of the minor can  
33 be discerned.

34 (2) The staff member receiving the notice shall date it  
35 immediately, record its existence in the minor's clinical record, and  
36 send copies of it to the minor's attorney, if any, the county-  
37 designated mental health professional, and the parent.

1 (3) The professional person shall discharge the minor, thirteen  
2 years or older, from the facility upon receipt of the minor's notice of  
3 intent to leave.

4 **PART II-D - PARENT-INITIATED MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT**

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 17.** A new section is added to chapter 71.34 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) A parent may bring, or authorize the bringing of, his or her  
8 minor child to an evaluation and treatment facility and request that  
9 the professional person examine the minor to determine whether the  
10 minor has a mental disorder and is in need of inpatient treatment.

11 (2) The consent of the minor is not required for admission,  
12 evaluation, and treatment if the parent brings the minor to the  
13 facility.

14 (3) An appropriately trained professional person may evaluate  
15 whether the minor has a mental disorder. The evaluation shall be  
16 completed within twenty-four hours of the time the minor was brought to  
17 the facility, unless the professional person determines that the  
18 condition of the minor necessitates additional time for evaluation. In  
19 no event shall a minor be held longer than seventy-two hours for  
20 evaluation. If, in the judgment of the professional person, it is  
21 determined it is a medical necessity for the minor to receive inpatient  
22 treatment, the minor may be held for treatment. The facility shall  
23 limit treatment to that which the professional person determines is  
24 medically necessary to stabilize the minor's condition until the  
25 evaluation has been completed. Within twenty-four hours of completion  
26 of the evaluation, the professional person shall notify the department  
27 if the child is held for treatment and of the date of admission.

28 (4) No provider is obligated to provide treatment to a minor under  
29 the provisions of this section. No provider may admit a minor to  
30 treatment under this section unless it is medically necessary.

31 (5) No minor receiving inpatient treatment under this section may  
32 be discharged from the facility based solely on his or her request.

33 (6) Prior to the review conducted under RCW 71.34.025, the  
34 professional person shall notify the minor of his or her right to  
35 petition superior court for release from the facility.

36 (7) For the purposes of this section "professional person" does not  
37 include a social worker, unless the social worker is certified under

1 RCW 18.19.110 and appropriately trained and qualified by education and  
2 experience, as defined by the department, in psychiatric social work.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 18.** A new section is added to chapter 71.34 RCW  
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) A parent may bring, or authorize the bringing of, his or her  
6 minor child to a provider of outpatient mental health treatment and  
7 request that an appropriately trained professional person examine the  
8 minor to determine whether the minor has a mental disorder and is in  
9 need of outpatient treatment.

10 (2) The consent of the minor is not required for evaluation if the  
11 parent brings the minor to the provider.

12 (3) The professional person may evaluate whether the minor has a  
13 mental disorder and is in need of outpatient treatment.

14 (4) Any minor admitted to inpatient treatment under section 14 or  
15 17 of this act shall be discharged immediately from inpatient treatment  
16 upon written request of the parent.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 19.** A new section is added to chapter 71.34 RCW  
18 to read as follows:

19 Following the review conducted under RCW 71.34.025, a minor child  
20 may petition the superior court for his or her release from the  
21 facility. The petition may be filed not sooner than five days  
22 following the review. The court shall release the minor unless it  
23 finds, upon a preponderance of the evidence, that it is a medical  
24 necessity for the minor to remain at the facility.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 20.** A new section is added to chapter 71.34 RCW  
26 to read as follows:

27 If the minor is not released as a result of the petition filed  
28 under section 19 of this act, he or she shall be released not later  
29 than thirty days following the later of: (1) The date of the  
30 department's determination under RCW 71.34.025(2); or (2) the filing of  
31 a petition for judicial review under section 19 of this act, unless a  
32 professional person or the county designated mental health professional  
33 initiates proceedings under this chapter.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 21.** A new section is added to chapter 71.34 RCW  
35 to read as follows:

1 The ability of a parent to bring his or her minor child to a  
2 certified evaluation and treatment program for evaluation and treatment  
3 does not create a right to obtain or benefit from any funds or  
4 resources of the state. The state may provide services for indigent  
5 minors to the extent that funds are available.

6 **PART II-E - CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY**

7 **Sec. 22.** RCW 70.96A.020 and 1996 c 178 s 23 and 1996 c 133 s 33  
8 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

9 For the purposes of this chapter the following words and phrases  
10 shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly requires  
11 otherwise:

12 (1) "Alcoholic" means a person who suffers from the disease of  
13 alcoholism.

14 (2) "Alcoholism" means a disease, characterized by a dependency on  
15 alcoholic beverages, loss of control over the amount and circumstances  
16 of use, symptoms of tolerance, physiological or psychological  
17 withdrawal, or both, if use is reduced or discontinued, and impairment  
18 of health or disruption of social or economic functioning.

19 (3) "Approved treatment program" means a discrete program of  
20 chemical dependency treatment provided by a treatment program certified  
21 by the department of social and health services as meeting standards  
22 adopted under this chapter.

23 (4) "Chemical dependency" means alcoholism or drug addiction, or  
24 dependence on alcohol and one or more other psychoactive chemicals, as  
25 the context requires.

26 (5) "Chemical dependency program" means expenditures and activities  
27 of the department designed and conducted to prevent or treat alcoholism  
28 and other drug addiction, including reasonable administration and  
29 overhead.

30 (6) "Department" means the department of social and health  
31 services.

32 (7) "Designated chemical dependency specialist" means a person  
33 designated by the county alcoholism and other drug addiction program  
34 coordinator designated under RCW 70.96A.310 to perform the commitment  
35 duties described in RCW 70.96A.140 and qualified to do so by meeting  
36 standards adopted by the department.

1       (8) "Director" means the person administering the chemical  
2 dependency program within the department.

3       (9) "Drug addict" means a person who suffers from the disease of  
4 drug addiction.

5       (10) "Drug addiction" means a disease characterized by a dependency  
6 on psychoactive chemicals, loss of control over the amount and  
7 circumstances of use, symptoms of tolerance, physiological or  
8 psychological withdrawal, or both, if use is reduced or discontinued,  
9 and impairment of health or disruption of social or economic  
10 functioning.

11       (11) "Emergency service patrol" means a patrol established under  
12 RCW 70.96A.170.

13       (12) "Gravely disabled by alcohol or other drugs" means that a  
14 person, as a result of the use of alcohol or other drugs: (a) Is in  
15 danger of serious physical harm resulting from a failure to provide for  
16 his or her essential human needs of health or safety; or (b) manifests  
17 severe deterioration in routine functioning evidenced by a repeated and  
18 escalating loss of cognition or volitional control over his or her  
19 actions and is not receiving care as essential for his or her health or  
20 safety.

21       (13) "Incapacitated by alcohol or other psychoactive chemicals"  
22 means that a person, as a result of the use of alcohol or other  
23 psychoactive chemicals, has his or her judgment so impaired that he or  
24 she is incapable of realizing and making a rational decision with  
25 respect to his or her need for treatment and presents a likelihood of  
26 serious harm to himself or herself, to any other person, or to  
27 property.

28       (14) "Incompetent person" means a person who has been adjudged  
29 incompetent by the superior court.

30       (15) "Intoxicated person" means a person whose mental or physical  
31 functioning is substantially impaired as a result of the use of alcohol  
32 or other psychoactive chemicals.

33       (16) "Licensed physician" means a person licensed to practice  
34 medicine or osteopathic medicine and surgery in the state of  
35 Washington.

36       (17) "Likelihood of serious harm" means either: (a) A substantial  
37 risk that physical harm will be inflicted by an individual upon his or  
38 her own person, as evidenced by threats or attempts to commit suicide  
39 or inflict physical harm on one's self; (b) a substantial risk that

1 physical harm will be inflicted by an individual upon another, as  
2 evidenced by behavior that has caused the harm or that places another  
3 person or persons in reasonable fear of sustaining the harm; or (c) a  
4 substantial risk that physical harm will be inflicted by an individual  
5 upon the property of others, as evidenced by behavior that has caused  
6 substantial loss or damage to the property of others.

7 (18) "Medical necessity" for inpatient care of a minor means a  
8 requested certified inpatient service that is reasonably calculated to:  
9 (a) Diagnose, arrest, or alleviate a chemical dependency; or (b)  
10 prevent the worsening of chemical dependency conditions that endanger  
11 life or cause suffering and pain, or result in illness or infirmity or  
12 threaten to cause or aggravate a handicap, or cause physical deformity  
13 or malfunction, and there is no adequate less restrictive alternative  
14 available.

15 (19) "Minor" means a person less than eighteen years of age.

16 (~~(19)~~) (20) "Parent" means the parent or parents who have the  
17 legal right to custody of the child. Parent includes custodian or  
18 guardian.

19 (~~(20)~~) (21) "Peace officer" means a law enforcement official of  
20 a public agency or governmental unit, and includes persons specifically  
21 given peace officer powers by any state law, local ordinance, or  
22 judicial order of appointment.

23 (~~(21)~~) (22) "Person" means an individual, including a minor.

24 (~~(22)~~) (23) "Professional person in charge" or "professional  
25 person" means a physician or chemical dependency counselor as defined  
26 in rule by the department, who is empowered by a certified treatment  
27 program with authority to make assessment, admission, continuing care,  
28 and discharge decisions on behalf of the certified program.

29 (24) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department of social  
30 and health services.

31 (~~(23)~~) (25) "Treatment" means the broad range of emergency,  
32 detoxification, residential, and outpatient services and care,  
33 including diagnostic evaluation, chemical dependency education and  
34 counseling, medical, psychiatric, psychological, and social service  
35 care, vocational rehabilitation and career counseling, which may be  
36 extended to alcoholics and other drug addicts and their families,  
37 persons incapacitated by alcohol or other psychoactive chemicals, and  
38 intoxicated persons.

1       (~~(24)~~)   (26)   "Treatment program" means an organization,  
2 institution, or corporation, public or private, engaged in the care,  
3 treatment, or rehabilitation of alcoholics or other drug addicts.

4           **PART II-F - VOLUNTARY CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY OUTPATIENT TREATMENT**

5           **Sec. 23.** RCW 70.96A.095 and 1996 c 133 s 34 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7       (~~(1)~~) Any person thirteen years of age or older may give consent  
8 for himself or herself to the furnishing of outpatient treatment by a  
9 chemical dependency treatment program certified by the department.  
10 (~~Consent of the parent of a person less than eighteen years of age for~~  
11 ~~inpatient treatment is necessary to authorize the care unless the child~~  
12 ~~meets the definition of a child in need of services in RCW~~  
13 ~~13.32A.030(4)(c), as determined by the department.)) Parental~~  
14 authorization is required for any treatment of a minor under the age of  
15 thirteen. (~~The parent of a minor is not liable for payment of care~~  
16 ~~for such persons pursuant to this chapter, unless they have joined in~~  
17 ~~the consent to the treatment.~~

18       ~~(2) The parent of any minor child may apply to a certified~~  
19 ~~treatment program for the admission of his or her minor child for~~  
20 ~~purposes authorized in this chapter. The consent of the minor child~~  
21 ~~shall not be required for the application or admission. The certified~~  
22 ~~treatment program shall accept the application and evaluate the child~~  
23 ~~for admission. The ability of a parent to apply to a certified~~  
24 ~~treatment program for the admission of his or her minor child does not~~  
25 ~~create a right to obtain or benefit from any funds or resources of the~~  
26 ~~state. However, the state may provide services for indigent minors to~~  
27 ~~the extent that funds are available therefor.~~

28       ~~(3) Any provider of outpatient treatment who provides outpatient~~  
29 ~~treatment to a minor thirteen years of age or older shall provide~~  
30 ~~notice of the minor's request for treatment to the minor's parents if:~~  
31 ~~(a) The minor signs a written consent authorizing the disclosure; or~~  
32 ~~(b) the treatment program director determines that the minor lacks~~  
33 ~~capacity to make a rational choice regarding consenting to disclosure.~~  
34 ~~The notice shall be made within seven days of the request for~~  
35 ~~treatment, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, and shall~~  
36 ~~contain the name, location, and telephone number of the facility~~  
37 ~~providing treatment, and the name of a professional person on the staff~~



1 of the facility providing treatment who is designated to discuss the  
2 minor's need for treatment with the parent.))

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 24.** A new section is added to chapter 70.96A  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 Any provider of outpatient treatment who provides outpatient  
6 treatment to a minor thirteen years of age or older shall provide  
7 notice of the minor's request for treatment to the minor's parents if:  
8 (1) The minor signs a written consent authorizing the disclosure; or  
9 (2) the treatment program director determines that the minor lacks  
10 capacity to make a rational choice regarding consenting to disclosure.  
11 The notice shall be made within seven days of the request for  
12 treatment, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, and shall  
13 contain the name, location, and telephone number of the facility  
14 providing treatment, and the name of a professional person on the staff  
15 of the facility providing treatment who is designated to discuss the  
16 minor's need for treatment with the parent.

17 **PART II-G - VOLUNTARY CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY INPATIENT TREATMENT**

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 25.** A new section is added to chapter 70.96A  
19 RCW to read as follows:

20 Parental consent is required for inpatient chemical dependency  
21 treatment of a minor, unless the child meets the definition of a child  
22 in need of services in RCW 13.32A.030(4)(c) as determined by the  
23 department: PROVIDED, That parental consent is required for any  
24 treatment of a minor under the age of thirteen.

25 This section does not apply to petitions filed under this chapter.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 26.** A new section is added to chapter 70.96A  
27 RCW to read as follows:

28 (1) The parent of a minor is not liable for payment of inpatient or  
29 outpatient chemical dependency treatment unless the parent has joined  
30 in the consent to the treatment.

31 (2) The ability of a parent to apply to a certified treatment  
32 program for the admission of his or her minor child does not create a  
33 right to obtain or benefit from any funds or resources of the state.  
34 However, the state may provide services for indigent minors to the  
35 extent that funds are available therefor.

1           **PART II-H - PARENT-INITIATED CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY TREATMENT**

2           NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 27.**   A new section is added to chapter 70.96A  
3 RCW to read as follows:

4           (1) A parent may bring, or authorize the bringing of, his or her  
5 minor child to a certified treatment program and request that a  
6 chemical dependency assessment be conducted by a professional person to  
7 determine whether the minor is chemically dependent and in need of  
8 inpatient treatment.

9           (2) The consent of the minor is not required for admission,  
10 evaluation, and treatment if the parent brings the minor to the  
11 program.

12           (3) An appropriately trained professional person may evaluate  
13 whether the minor is chemically dependent. The evaluation shall be  
14 completed within twenty-four hours of the time the minor was brought to  
15 the program, unless the professional person determines that the  
16 condition of the minor necessitates additional time for evaluation. In  
17 no event shall a minor be held longer than seventy-two hours for  
18 evaluation. If, in the judgment of the professional person, it is  
19 determined it is a medical necessity for the minor to receive inpatient  
20 treatment, the minor may be held for treatment. The facility shall  
21 limit treatment to that which the professional person determines is  
22 medically necessary to stabilize the minor's condition until the  
23 evaluation has been completed. Within twenty-four hours of completion  
24 of the evaluation, the professional person shall notify the department  
25 if the child is held for treatment and of the date of admission.

26           (4) No provider is obligated to provide treatment to a minor under  
27 the provisions of this section. No provider may admit a minor to  
28 treatment under this section unless it is medically necessary.

29           (5) No minor receiving inpatient treatment under this section may  
30 be discharged from the program based solely on his or her request.

31           **Sec. 28.**   RCW 70.96A.097 and 1995 c 312 s 48 are each amended to  
32 read as follows:

33           (1) ~~((The admission of any child under RCW 70.96A.095 may be~~  
34 ~~reviewed by the county designated chemical dependency specialist~~  
35 ~~between fifteen and thirty days following admission. The county-~~  
36 ~~designated chemical dependency specialist may undertake the review on~~

1 his or her own initiative and may seek reimbursement from the parents,  
2 their insurance, or medicaid for the expense of the review.

3 (2)) The department shall ensure that, for any minor admitted to  
4 inpatient treatment under section 27 of this act, a review is conducted  
5 ((no later than sixty days)) by a physician or chemical dependency  
6 counselor, as defined in rule by the department, who is employed by the  
7 department or an agency under contract with the department and who  
8 neither has a financial interest in continued inpatient treatment of  
9 the minor nor is affiliated with the program providing the treatment.  
10 The physician or chemical dependency counselor shall conduct the review  
11 not less than seven nor more than fourteen days following ((admission))  
12 the date the minor was brought to the facility under section 27(1) of  
13 this act to determine whether it is ((medically appropriate)) a medical  
14 necessity to continue the ((child's)) minor's treatment on an inpatient  
15 basis. ((The department may, subject to available funds, contract with  
16 a county for the conduct of the review conducted under this subsection  
17 and may seek reimbursement from the parents, their insurance, or  
18 medicaid for the expense of any review conducted by an agency under  
19 contract.

20 If the county-designated chemical dependency specialist determines  
21 that continued inpatient treatment of the child is no longer medically  
22 appropriate, the specialist shall notify the facility, the child, the  
23 child's parents, and the department of the finding within twenty-four  
24 hours of the determination.

25 (3) For purposes of eligibility for medical assistance under  
26 chapter 74.09 RCW, children in inpatient mental health or chemical  
27 dependency treatment shall be considered to be part of their parent's  
28 or legal guardian's household, unless the child has been assessed by  
29 the department of social and health services or its designee as likely  
30 to require such treatment for at least ninety consecutive days, or is  
31 in out-of-home care in accordance with chapter 13.34 RCW, or the  
32 child's parents are found to not be exercising responsibility for care  
33 and control of the child. Payment for such care by the department of  
34 social and health services shall be made only in accordance with rules,  
35 guidelines, and clinical criteria applicable to inpatient treatment of  
36 minors established by the department.)

37 (2) In making a determination under subsection (1) of this section  
38 whether it is a medical necessity to release the minor from inpatient  
39 treatment, the department shall consider the opinion of the treatment

1 provider, the safety of the minor, the likelihood the minor's chemical  
2 dependency recovery will deteriorate if released from inpatient  
3 treatment, and the wishes of the parent.

4 (3) If, after any review conducted by the department under this  
5 section, the department determines it is no longer a medical necessity  
6 for a minor to receive inpatient treatment, the department shall  
7 immediately notify the parents and the professional person in charge.  
8 The professional person in charge shall release the minor to the  
9 parents within twenty-four hours of receiving notice. If the  
10 professional person in charge and the parent believe that it is a  
11 medical necessity for the minor to remain in inpatient treatment, the  
12 minor shall be released to the parent on the second judicial day  
13 following the department's determination in order to allow the parent  
14 time to file an at-risk youth petition under chapter 13.32A RCW. If the  
15 department determines it is a medical necessity for the minor to  
16 receive outpatient treatment and the minor declines to obtain such  
17 treatment, such refusal shall be grounds for the parent to file an at-  
18 risk youth petition.

19 (4) The department may, subject to available funds, contract with  
20 other governmental agencies for the conduct of the reviews conducted  
21 under this section and may seek reimbursement from the parents, their  
22 insurance, or medicaid for the expense of any review conducted by an  
23 agency under contract.

24 (5) In addition to the review required under this section, the  
25 department may periodically determine and redetermine the medical  
26 necessity of treatment for purposes of payment with public funds.

27 NEW SECTION. Sec. 29. A new section is added to chapter 70.96A  
28 RCW to read as follows:

29 (1) A parent may bring, or authorize the bringing of, his or her  
30 minor child to a provider of outpatient chemical dependency treatment  
31 and request that an appropriately trained professional person examine  
32 the minor to determine whether the minor has a chemical dependency and  
33 is in need of outpatient treatment.

34 (2) The consent of the minor is not required for evaluation if the  
35 parent brings the minor to the provider.

36 (3) The professional person in charge of the program may evaluate  
37 whether the minor has a chemical dependency and is in need of  
38 outpatient treatment.

1 (4) Any minor admitted to inpatient treatment under section 27 of  
2 this act shall be discharged immediately from inpatient treatment upon  
3 written request of the parent.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 30.** A new section is added to chapter 70.96A  
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 Following the review conducted under RCW 70.96A.097, a minor child  
7 may petition the superior court for his or her release from the  
8 facility. The petition may be filed not sooner than five days  
9 following the review. The court shall release the minor unless it  
10 finds, upon a preponderance of the evidence, that it is a medical  
11 necessity for the minor to remain at the facility.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 31.** A new section is added to chapter 70.96A  
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 If the minor is not released as a result of the petition filed  
15 under section 30 of this act, he or she shall be released not later  
16 than thirty days following the later of: (1) The date of the  
17 department's determination under RCW 70.96A.097(2); or (2) the filing  
18 of a petition for judicial review under section 30 of this act, unless  
19 a professional person or the designated chemical dependency specialist  
20 initiates proceedings under this chapter.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 32.** A new section is added to chapter 70.96A  
22 RCW to read as follows:

23 For purposes of eligibility for medical assistance under chapter  
24 74.09 RCW, minors in inpatient chemical dependency treatment shall be  
25 considered to be part of their parent's or legal guardian's household,  
26 unless the minor has been assessed by the department or its designee as  
27 likely to require such treatment for at least ninety consecutive days,  
28 or is in out-of-home care in accordance with chapter 13.34 RCW, or the  
29 parents are found to not be exercising responsibility for care and  
30 control of the minor. Payment for such care by the department shall be  
31 made only in accordance with rules, guidelines, and clinical criteria  
32 applicable to inpatient treatment of minors established by the  
33 department.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 33.** It is the purpose of sections 27 and 29 of  
35 this act to assure the ability of parents to exercise reasonable,

1 compassionate care and control of their minor children when there is a  
2 medical necessity for treatment and without the requirement of filing  
3 a petition under chapter 70.96A RCW.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 34.** The department of social and health  
5 services shall adopt rules defining "appropriately trained professional  
6 person" for the purposes of conducting mental health and chemical  
7 dependency evaluations under sections 17(3), 18(1), 27(3), and 29(1) of  
8 this act.

9 **PART III - MISCELLANEOUS**

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 35.** The legislature finds that an essential  
11 component of the children in need of services, dependency, and truancy  
12 laws is the use of juvenile detention. As chapter 7.21 RCW is  
13 currently written, courts may not order detention time without a  
14 criminal charge being filed. It is the intent of the legislature to  
15 avoid the bringing of criminal charges against youth who need the  
16 guidance of the court rather than its punishment. The legislature  
17 further finds that ordering a child placed in detention is a remedial  
18 action, not a punitive one. Since the legislature finds that the state  
19 is required to provide instruction to children in detention, use of the  
20 courts' contempt powers is an effective means for furthering the  
21 education and protection of these children. Thus, it is the intent of  
22 the legislature to authorize a limited sanction of time in juvenile  
23 detention independent of chapter 7.21 RCW for failure to comply with  
24 court orders in truancy, child in need of services, at-risk youth, and  
25 dependency cases for the sole purpose of providing the courts with the  
26 tools necessary to enforce orders in these limited types of cases  
27 because other statutory contempt remedies are inadequate.

28 **Sec. 36.** RCW 7.21.030 and 1989 c 373 s 3 are each amended to read  
29 as follows:

30 (1) The court may initiate a proceeding to impose a remedial  
31 sanction on its own motion or on the motion of a person aggrieved by a  
32 contempt of court in the proceeding to which the contempt is related.  
33 Except as provided in RCW 7.21.050, the court, after notice and  
34 hearing, may impose a remedial sanction authorized by this chapter.

1 (2) If the court finds that the person has failed or refused to  
2 perform an act that is yet within the person's power to perform, the  
3 court may find the person in contempt of court and impose one or more  
4 of the following remedial sanctions:

5 (a) Imprisonment if the contempt of court is of a type defined in  
6 RCW 7.21.010(1) (b) through (d). The imprisonment may extend only so  
7 long as it serves a coercive purpose.

8 (b) A forfeiture not to exceed two thousand dollars for each day  
9 the contempt of court continues.

10 (c) An order designed to ensure compliance with a prior order of  
11 the court.

12 (d) Any other remedial sanction other than the sanctions specified  
13 in (a) through (c) of this subsection if the court expressly finds that  
14 those sanctions would be ineffectual to terminate a continuing contempt  
15 of court.

16 (e) In cases under chapters 13.32A, 13.34, and 28A.225 RCW,  
17 commitment to juvenile detention for a period of time not to exceed  
18 seven days. This sanction may be imposed in addition to, or as an  
19 alternative to, any other remedial sanction authorized by this chapter.  
20 This remedy is specifically determined to be a remedial sanction.

21 (3) The court may, in addition to the remedial sanctions set forth  
22 in subsection (2) of this section, order a person found in contempt of  
23 court to pay a party for any losses suffered by the party as a result  
24 of the contempt and any costs incurred in connection with the contempt  
25 proceeding, including reasonable attorney's fees.

26 **Sec. 37.** RCW 13.32A.250 and 1996 c 133 s 28 are each amended to  
27 read as follows:

28 (1) In all child in need of services proceedings and at-risk youth  
29 proceedings, the court shall verbally notify the parents and the child  
30 of the possibility of a finding of contempt for failure to comply with  
31 the terms of a court order entered pursuant to this chapter. Except as  
32 otherwise provided in this section, the court shall treat the parents  
33 and the child equally for the purposes of applying contempt of court  
34 processes and penalties under this section.

35 (2) Failure by a party to comply with an order entered under this  
36 chapter is a civil contempt of court as provided in (~~chapter 7.21~~)  
37 RCW 7.21.030(2)(e), subject to the limitations of subsection (3) of  
38 this section.

1 (3) The court may impose remedial sanctions including a fine of up  
2 to one hundred dollars and confinement for up to seven days, or both  
3 for contempt of court under this section.

4 (4) A child placed in confinement for contempt under this section  
5 shall be placed in confinement only in a secure juvenile detention  
6 facility operated by or pursuant to a contract with a county.

7 (5) A motion for contempt may be made by a parent, a child,  
8 juvenile court personnel, or by any public agency, organization, or  
9 person having custody of the child under a court order adopted pursuant  
10 to this chapter.

11 (6) Whenever the court finds probable cause to believe, based upon  
12 consideration of a motion for contempt and the information set forth in  
13 a supporting declaration, that a child has violated a placement order  
14 entered under this chapter, the court may issue an order directing law  
15 enforcement to pick up and take the child to detention. The order may  
16 be entered ex parte without prior notice to the child or other parties.  
17 Following the child's admission to detention, a detention review  
18 hearing must be held in accordance with RCW 13.32A.065.

19 **Sec. 38.** RCW 13.34.165 and 1996 c 133 s 29 are each amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 (1) Failure by a party to comply with an order entered under this  
22 chapter is civil contempt of court as provided in (~~chapter 7.21~~) RCW  
23 7.21.030(2)(e).

24 (2) The maximum term of imprisonment that may be imposed as a  
25 (~~punitive~~) remedial sanction for contempt of court under this section  
26 is confinement for up to seven days.

27 (3) A child imprisoned for contempt under this section shall be  
28 confined only in a secure juvenile detention facility operated by or  
29 pursuant to a contract with a county.

30 (4) A motion for contempt may be made by a parent, juvenile court  
31 personnel, or by any public agency, organization, or person having  
32 custody of the child under a court order entered pursuant to this  
33 chapter.

34 (5) Whenever the court finds probable cause to believe, based upon  
35 consideration of a motion for contempt and the information set forth in  
36 a supporting declaration, that a child has violated a placement order  
37 entered under this chapter, the court may issue an order directing law  
38 enforcement to pick up and take the child to detention. The order may



1 be entered ex parte without prior notice to the child or other parties.  
2 Following the child's admission to detention, a detention review  
3 hearing must be held in accordance with RCW 13.32A.065.

4 **Sec. 39.** RCW 28A.225.090 and 1997 c 68 s 2 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) A court may order a child subject to a petition under RCW  
7 28A.225.035 to:

8 (a) Attend the child's current school;

9 (b) If there is space available and the program can provide  
10 educational services appropriate for the child, order the child to  
11 attend another public school, an alternative education program, center,  
12 a skill center, dropout prevention program, or another public  
13 educational program;

14 (c) Attend a private nonsectarian school or program including an  
15 education center. Before ordering a child to attend an approved or  
16 certified private nonsectarian school or program, the court shall: (i)  
17 Consider the public and private programs available; (ii) find that  
18 placement is in the best interest of the child; and (iii) find that the  
19 private school or program is willing to accept the child and will not  
20 charge any fees in addition to those established by contract with the  
21 student's school district. If the court orders the child to enroll in  
22 a private school or program, the child's school district shall contract  
23 with the school or program to provide educational services for the  
24 child. The school district shall not be required to contract for a  
25 weekly rate that exceeds the state general apportionment dollars  
26 calculated on a weekly basis generated by the child and received by the  
27 district. A school district shall not be required to enter into a  
28 contract that is longer than the remainder of the school year. A  
29 school district shall not be required to enter into or continue a  
30 contract if the child is no longer enrolled in the district;

31 (d) Be referred to a community truancy board, if available; or

32 (e) Submit to testing for the use of controlled substances or  
33 alcohol based on a determination that such testing is appropriate to  
34 the circumstances and behavior of the child and will facilitate the  
35 child's compliance with the mandatory attendance law.

36 (2) If the child fails to comply with the court order, the court  
37 may order the child to be punished by detention, as provided in RCW  
38 7.21.030(2)(e), or may impose alternatives to detention such as

1 community service. Failure by a child to comply with an order issued  
2 under this subsection shall not be punishable by detention for a period  
3 greater than that permitted pursuant to a civil contempt proceeding  
4 against a child under chapter 13.32A RCW.

5 (3) Any parent violating any of the provisions of either RCW  
6 28A.225.010 or 28A.225.080 shall be fined not more than twenty-five  
7 dollars for each day of unexcused absence from school. It shall be a  
8 defense for a parent charged with violating RCW 28A.225.010 to show  
9 that he or she exercised reasonable diligence in attempting to cause a  
10 child in his or her custody to attend school or that the child's school  
11 did not perform its duties as required in RCW 28A.225.020. The court  
12 may order the parent to provide community service instead of imposing  
13 a fine. Any fine imposed pursuant to this section may be suspended  
14 upon the condition that a parent charged with violating RCW 28A.225.010  
15 shall participate with the school and the child in a supervised plan  
16 for the child's attendance at school or upon condition that the parent  
17 attend a conference or conferences scheduled by a school for the  
18 purpose of analyzing the causes of a child's absence.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 40.** The legislature finds that predatory  
20 individuals, such as drug dealers, sexual marauders, and panderers,  
21 provide shelter to at-risk youth as a means of preying upon them. The  
22 legislature further finds that at-risk youth are vulnerable to the  
23 influence of these individuals. Thus, the legislature finds that it is  
24 important to the safety of Washington's youth that they be prevented  
25 from coming in contact with these predatory individuals. The  
26 legislature further finds that locating runaway children is the first  
27 step to preventing individuals from preying on these youth and to  
28 achieving family reconciliation. Therefore, the legislature intends to  
29 use punitive measures to create a clear disincentive for predatory  
30 individuals intending to take advantage of at-risk youth. The  
31 legislature further intends that all persons be required to report the  
32 location of a runaway minor, but that those individuals who fail to  
33 make such a report because they wish to have the minor remain unlocated  
34 as a means of preying upon them be punished for their failure to report  
35 the child's location.

36 *\*Sec. 41. RCW 13.32A.080 and 1994 sp.s. c 7 s 507 are each amended*  
37 *to read as follows:*

1       (1)(a) A person commits the crime of unlawful harboring of a minor  
2 if the person provides shelter to a minor without the consent of a  
3 parent of the minor and after the person knows that the minor is away  
4 from the home of the parent, without the parent's permission, and if  
5 the person intentionally:

6       (i) Fails to release the minor to a law enforcement officer after  
7 being requested to do so by the officer; or

8       (ii) Fails to disclose the location of the minor to a law  
9 enforcement officer after being requested to do so by the officer, if  
10 the person knows the location of the minor and had either taken the  
11 minor to that location or had assisted the minor in reaching that  
12 location; or

13       (iii) Obstructs a law enforcement officer from taking the minor  
14 into custody; or

15       (iv) Assists the minor in avoiding or attempting to avoid the  
16 custody of the law enforcement officer; or

17       (v) Engages the child in a crime; or

18       (iv) Engages in a clear course of conduct that demonstrates an  
19 intent to contribute to the delinquency of a minor or the involvement  
20 of a minor in a sex offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030.

21       (b) It is a defense to a prosecution under this section that the  
22 defendant had custody of the minor pursuant to a court order.

23       (2) Harboring a minor is punishable as a gross misdemeanor.

24       (3) Any person who provides shelter to a child, absent from home,  
25 may notify the department's local community service office of the  
26 child's presence.

27       (4) An adult responsible for involving a child in the commission of  
28 an offense may be prosecuted under existing criminal statutes  
29 including, but not limited to:

30       (a) Distribution of a controlled substance to a minor, as defined  
31 in RCW 69.50.406;

32       (b) Promoting prostitution as defined in chapter 9A.88 RCW; and

33       (c) Complicity of the adult in the crime of a minor, under RCW  
34 9A.08.020.

35 \*Sec. 41 was vetoed. See message at end of chapter.

36       \*Sec. 42. RCW 13.32A.082 and 1996 c 133 s 14 are each amended to  
37 read as follows:

1       (1) Any person who, without legal authorization, provides shelter  
2 to a minor and who knows at the time of providing the shelter that the  
3 minor is away from the parent's home, or other lawfully prescribed  
4 residence, without the permission of the parent, shall promptly report  
5 the location of the child to the parent, the law enforcement agency of  
6 the jurisdiction in which the person lives, or the department. The  
7 report may be made by telephone or any other reasonable means.

8       (2) Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions  
9 in this subsection apply throughout this section.

10       (a) "Shelter" means the person's home or any structure over which  
11 the person has any control.

12       (b) "Promptly report" means to report within eight hours after the  
13 person has knowledge that the minor is away from home without parental  
14 permission.

15       (3) When the department receives a report under subsection (1) of  
16 this section, it shall make a good faith attempt to notify the parent  
17 that a report has been received and offer services designed to resolve  
18 the conflict and accomplish a reunification of the family.

19       (4) A person who does not report a child's location in violation of  
20 subsection (1) of this section with the intent to contribute to the  
21 delinquency of a minor or engage the child in a crime is guilty of a  
22 misdemeanor.

23 \*Sec. 42 was vetoed. See message at end of chapter.

24       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 43.** Part headings used in this act do not  
25 constitute any part of the law.

26       NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 44.** This act may be known and cited as "the  
27 Becca act of 1998."

Passed the Senate March 9, 1998.

Passed the House March 6, 1998.

Approved by the Governor April 2, 1998, with the exception of  
certain items that were vetoed.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 2, 1998.

1       Note: Governor's explanation of partial veto is as follows:

2       "I am returning herewith, without my approval as to sections 2, 3,  
3 5, 10, 41 and 42, Substitute Senate Bill 6208 entitled:

4       "AN ACT Relating to at-risk youth;"

5       This bill clarifies the processes for the admission of a child for  
6 mental health or chemical dependency treatment. It clearly separates

1 the procedures for voluntary outpatient and inpatient treatment,  
2 parent-initiated treatment and court-authorized involuntary treatment.  
3 Safeguards are provided for inpatient mental health and chemical  
4 dependency treatment, including an independent review by a mental  
5 health or chemical dependency professional, the opportunity for a child  
6 to petition the court for review, and automatic release from a facility  
7 unless a court allows the child to be retained for further treatment.

8 Sections 2, 3 and 5 relate to the Department of Social and Health  
9 Services contracting with counties for the operation of staff secure  
10 group homes. Section 2 would require DSHS to transfer funds to  
11 counties to operate these homes based on a formula that is inconsistent  
12 with other formulae related to at-risk youth. Section 3 would  
13 incorrectly change state child welfare duties to include providing  
14 funding to counties to staff these homes. Section 5 apparently would  
15 require counties, which would be subcontracting with the state, to in  
16 turn subcontract with private vendors to provide staff secure group  
17 homes for certain youth. DSHS already contracts for such services, so  
18 that section is unnecessary.

19 Section 10 would require DSHS to report to the Legislature annually  
20 on the number of parent-initiated admissions of minors to evaluation  
21 and treatment facilities. A costly hospital record review would be  
22 needed to gather such information, but no funding was provided.

23 Sections 41 and 42 would amend the law relating to unlawful  
24 harboring of a minor child. The language is redundant with existing  
25 law and may lump together effective shelters for youth with those  
26 individuals who prey upon them.

27 For these reasons, I have vetoed sections 2, 3, 5, 10, 41 and 42 of  
28 Substitute Senate Bill No. 6208.

29 With the exception of sections 2, 3, 5, 10, 41 and 42, Substitute  
30 Senate Bill No. 6208 is approved."