
SENATE BILL 5522

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Senators Fairley and Kohl-Welles

Read first time 01/26/1999. Referred to Committee on Labor & Workforce Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to work activity provisions for recipients of
2 temporary assistance for needy families; and amending RCW 74.08A.260.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.08A.260 and 1997 c 58 s 313 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 Recipients who have not obtained paid, unsubsidized employment by
7 the end of the job search component (~~authorized in section 312 of this~~
8 ~~act~~)) shall be referred to a work activity.

9 (1) (~~Each recipient shall be assessed immediately upon completion~~
10 ~~of the job search component.~~)) When an adult applicant qualifies for
11 temporary assistance for needy families, the department shall make an
12 initial assessment of the qualified adult. Assessments shall be based
13 upon factors that are critical to obtaining employment, including but
14 not limited to education, employment strengths, and employment history.
15 The assessment shall also include an initial screening for barriers to
16 self-sufficiency, including without limitation, homelessness, drug and
17 alcohol abuse, domestic violence victimization, limited English
18 proficiency, and illiteracy. Assessments may be performed by the
19 department or by a contracted entity. The assessment shall be based on

1 a uniform, consistent, transferable format that will be accepted by all
2 agencies and organizations serving the recipient. Based on the
3 assessment, an individual responsibility plan shall be prepared that:
4 (a) Sets forth an employment goal and a plan for moving the recipient
5 immediately into employment; (b) contains the obligation of the
6 recipient to become and remain employed; (c) moves the recipient into
7 whatever employment the recipient is capable of handling as quickly as
8 possible; (d) recommends that adult recipients assure that their
9 school-age children attend school; (e) requires that the recipient
10 document immunization of the child or children for whom the recipient
11 is responsible by a certificate showing that the child has completed
12 the state board of health's recommended infection disease immunization
13 schedule, and the minimum standards for the early and periodic
14 screening, diagnosis, and treatment schedule for preschool children, or
15 is making satisfactory progress in complying with the schedule, unless
16 the recipient has a waiver signed by a physician licensed under chapter
17 18.71 or 18.57 RCW stating that a particular vaccine is not medically
18 advisable for the child, or the recipient certifies in writing that he
19 or she has objections to the required immunizations based upon
20 religious beliefs; and ((+d)) (f) describes the services available to
21 the recipient to enable the recipient to obtain and keep employment.

22 (2) Recipients who are not engaged in work and work activities, and
23 do not qualify for a good cause exemption under RCW 74.08A.270, shall
24 engage in self-directed service as provided in RCW 74.08A.330.

25 (3) If a recipient refuses to engage in work and work activities
26 required by the department, the family's grant shall be reduced by the
27 recipient's share, and may, if the department determines it
28 appropriate, be terminated.

29 (4) The department may waive the penalties required under
30 subsection (3) of this section, subject to a finding that the recipient
31 refused to engage in work for good cause provided in RCW 74.08A.270.

32 (5) In implementing this section, the department shall assign the
33 highest priority to the most employable clients, including adults in
34 two-parent families and parents in single-parent families that include
35 older preschool or school-age children to be engaged in work
36 activities.

1 (6) In consultation with the recipient, the department or
2 contractor shall place the recipient into a work activity that is
3 available in the local area where the recipient resides.

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