
SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6546

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Costa, Winsley, Kohl-Welles, Thibaudeau, Wojahn, Jacobsen, Spanel, Gardner, Goings, Rasmussen, Prentice, McAuliffe and Kline)

Read first time 02/08/2000.

1 AN ACT Relating to family caregiver long-term care information and
2 support services; amending RCW 74.41.020, 74.41.030, 74.41.050, and
3 74.41.070; and adding a new section to chapter 74.41 RCW.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.41.020 and 1987 c 409 s 1 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 It is the intent of the legislature to provide ~~((for both))~~ a
8 comprehensive program of long-term care information and support,
9 including in-home and out-of-home respite care services ~~((which are~~
10 ~~provided by a range of service providers))~~, for family and other unpaid
11 caregivers who provide the daily services required when caring for
12 adults with functional disabilities. The ~~((respite care))~~ family
13 caregiver long-term care information and support services shall:

14 (1) Provide information, relief, and support to family or other
15 unpaid caregivers of ~~((disabled))~~ adults with functional disabilities;

16 (2) Encourage family and other nonpaid individuals to provide care
17 for ~~((disabled))~~ adults with functional disabilities at home, and thus
18 offer a viable alternative to ~~((institutionalization))~~ placement in a
19 long-term care facility;

1 (3) Ensure that respite care is made generally available on a
2 sliding-fee basis to eligible participants in the program according to
3 priorities established by the department;

4 (4) Be provided in the least restrictive setting available
5 consistent with the individually assessed needs of the ~~((functionally~~
6 ~~disabled))~~ adults with functional disabilities; ~~((and))~~

7 (5) Include services appropriate to the needs of persons caring for
8 individuals with dementing illnesses; and

9 (6) Provide family and other unpaid caregivers with long-term care
10 information including but not limited to making care plans, locating
11 long-term care resources, and solving day-to-day caregiving problems.

12 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.41.030 and 1987 c 409 s 2 are each amended to read
13 as follows:

14 Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the definitions in
15 this section apply throughout this chapter.

16 (1) "Family caregiver long-term care information and support
17 services" means providing long-term care information and support
18 services to unpaid family and other unpaid caregivers of adults with
19 functional disabilities, including but not limited to providing: (a)
20 Information about available public and private long-term care support
21 services; (b) assistance in gaining access to an array of appropriate
22 long-term care family caregiver services; (c) individual counseling,
23 and promoting and implementing support groups; (d) caregiver training
24 to assist the nonpaid caregivers in making decisions and solving
25 challenges relating to their caregiving roles; (e) respite care
26 services; and (f) additional supportive long-term care services that
27 may include but not be limited to translating/interpreter services,
28 specialized transportation, coordination of medical care services, and
29 other forms of information and support necessary to maintain the unpaid
30 caregiving activity.

31 (2) "Respite care services" means relief care for families or other
32 caregivers of ~~((disabled))~~ adults with functional disabilities,
33 eligibility for which shall be determined by the department by rule.
34 The services provide temporary care or supervision of ~~((disabled))~~
35 adults with functional disabilities in substitution for the caregiver.
36 The term includes ~~((social))~~ adult day ~~((care))~~ services.

37 ~~((+2))~~ (3) "Eligible participant for family caregiver long-term
38 care information and support services" means an adult ~~((+a))~~ who needs

1 substantially continuous care or supervision by reason of his or her
2 functional disability(~~(, and (b) who is)~~).

3 (4) "Eligible participant for respite care services" means an adult
4 who meets the criteria for family caregiver long-term care information
5 and support services and is also assessed as requiring
6 ((institutionalization)) placement into a long-term care facility in
7 the absence of ((a)) an unpaid family or other unpaid caregiver
8 assisted by home and community support services, including respite
9 care.

10 ~~((3))~~ (5) "Caregiver" means a spouse, relative, or friend who has
11 primary responsibility for the care of ~~((a functionally disabled~~
12 ~~adult,))~~ an adult with a functional disability and who does not receive
13 financial compensation for the care(~~(, and who is)~~). To be eligible
14 for respite care services, the caregiver is considered the client, and
15 must also be assessed as ((being)) at risk of placing ((the eligible
16 participant)) an adult with functional disabilities in a long-term care
17 facility if respite care ~~((is))~~ and family caregiver long-term care
18 information and support services are not available.

19 ~~((4) "Institutionalization" means placement in a long-term care~~
20 ~~facility.~~

21 ~~(5))~~ (6) "((Social)) Adult day ((care)) services" means nonmedical
22 services to persons who live with their families, cannot be left
23 unsupervised, and are at risk of being placed in a twenty-four-hour
24 care facility if their families do not receive some relief from
25 constant care.

26 ~~((6))~~ (7) "Department" means the department of social and health
27 services.

28 **Sec. 3.** RCW 74.41.050 and 1989 c 427 s 8 are each amended to read
29 as follows:

30 The department shall contract with area agencies on aging or other
31 appropriate agencies to conduct ~~((respite care projects))~~ family
32 caregiver long-term care information and support services to the extent
33 of available funding. The responsibilities of the agencies shall
34 include but not be limited to: (1) Administering a program of family
35 caregiver long-term care information and support services; and (2)
36 negotiating rates of payment, administering sliding-fee scales to
37 enable eligible participants to participate in paying for respite care,
38 and arranging for respite care information, training, and other support

1 services. (~~Rates of payment to respite care service providers shall~~
2 ~~not exceed, and may be less than, rates paid by the department to~~
3 ~~providers for the same level of service.~~) In evaluating the need for
4 respite services, consideration shall be given to the mental and
5 physical ability of the caregiver to perform necessary caregiver
6 functions.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 74.41 RCW
8 to read as follows:

9 The family caregiver long-term care information and support
10 services administered by the respective area agencies on aging may
11 include: (1) Information about an array of private and public long-
12 term care support services available; (2) assistance in gaining access
13 to appropriate long-term care services; (3) family and individual
14 counseling, including promoting and implementing family support groups;
15 (4) family caregiver training to assist the caregivers in making
16 decisions and solving problems relating to their caregiving roles; (5)
17 respite care to enable eligible caregivers to be temporarily relieved
18 from their caregiving responsibilities; and (6) supplemental services,
19 on a limited basis, to complement the care provided by caregivers that
20 may include but not be limited to: (a) Translating/interpreter
21 services; (b) specialized transportation; (c) assistance purchasing
22 necessary supplies, durable goods, or equipment; and (d) client
23 advocacy.

24 **Sec. 5.** RCW 74.41.070 and 1998 c 245 s 151 are each amended to
25 read as follows:

26 The area agencies on aging administering (~~respite care programs~~)
27 family caregiver long-term care information and support services shall
28 maintain data which indicates demand for (~~respite care, and which~~
29 ~~includes information on in-home and out-of-home day care and in-home~~
30 ~~and out-of-home overnight care demand~~) family caregiver long-term care
31 information and support services.

--- END ---