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SENATE BILL 6607

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State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Senators Hargrove and Fairley

Read first time 01/20/2000. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to assuring accountability in delivery of human  
2 services; adding new sections to chapter 7.16 RCW; and creating a new  
3 section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature intends to provide  
6 additional accountability and efficiencies in the delivery of social,  
7 economic, and treatment services by clarifying the ability of  
8 legislators to require the mandated delivery of such services by the  
9 department of social and health services.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 7.16 RCW  
11 to read as follows:

12 For the purposes of this section and section 3 of this act, the  
13 following definitions apply:

14 (1) "Human services" means those programs and services, operated or  
15 funded by the department, that are designed to: (a) Address one or  
16 more of the factors set forth in RCW 70.190.130(1)(h), other than the  
17 provision of basic education; (b) provide basic economic or social

1 services to qualifying individuals; or (c) provide medical diagnostic  
2 or treatment services to individuals.

3 (2) "Department" means the department of social and health  
4 services.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 7.16 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 (1)(a) A writ of mandate is an available remedy and may be issued  
8 in cases when the department fails to provide a statutorily mandated  
9 report to the legislature at the date the report is due.

10 (b) A writ of mandate is an available remedy and may be issued in  
11 cases when the department fails to meet a statutory mandate or does not  
12 implement a statute that requires performance of duties on the part of  
13 the department.

14 (2) For purposes of this section, a legislator is a party of  
15 interest and has standing to seek the writ in his or her capacity as a  
16 legislator.

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