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SENATE BILL 6608

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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 state  
9 agencies.

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 a state human services agency, that are designed to: (a)  
16 Address one or more of the factors set forth in RCW 70.190.130(1)(h),  
17 other than the provision of basic education; (b) provide basic economic

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

3 (2) "State human services agency" means the department of social  
4 and health services; the department of health; the employment security  
5 department; the department of community, trade, and economic  
6 development; and the office of the superintendent of public  
7 instruction.

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

10 (1)(a) A writ of mandate is an available remedy and may be issued  
11 in cases when a state human services agency fails to provide a  
12 statutorily mandated report to the legislature at the date the report  
13 is due.

14 (b) A writ of mandate is an available remedy and may be issued in  
15 cases when a state human services agency fails to meet a statutory  
16 mandate or does not implement a statute that requires performance of  
17 duties on the part of the agency.

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

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