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HOUSE BILL 1947

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State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By Representatives McIntire, Hunt, Kagi, Clements, Hankins, Boldt, Pflug, Alexander, DeBolt, Linville, Grant, Pettigrew, Chase, Simpson, Mielke, Rockefeller and Edwards

Read first time 02/17/2003. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to funding restrictions for the Washington  
2 WorkFirst program; and amending RCW 74.08A.340.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.08A.340 and 1997 c 58 s 321 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 The department of social and health services shall operate the  
7 Washington WorkFirst program authorized under RCW 74.08A.200 through  
8 74.08A.330, 43.330.145, 74.13.0903 and 74.25.040, and chapter 74.12 RCW  
9 within the following constraints:

10 (1) The full amount of the temporary assistance for needy families  
11 block grant, plus qualifying state expenditures as appropriated in the  
12 biennial operating budget, shall be appropriated to the department each  
13 year in the biennial appropriations act to carry out the provisions of  
14 the program authorized in RCW 74.08A.200 through 74.08A.330,  
15 43.330.145, 74.13.0903 and 74.25.040, and chapter 74.12 RCW.

16 (2) The legislature shall appropriate and the department ((may))  
17 shall expend funds defined in subsection (1) of this section in ((any))  
18 a manner that will effectively accomplish the outcome measures defined  
19 in RCW 74.08A.410. Expenditure of amounts under subsection (1) of this

1 section is subject to appropriation and subject to any conditions  
2 contained in the biennial or supplemental operating budget. No more  
3 than fifteen percent of the amount provided in subsection (1) of this  
4 section may be spent for administrative purposes. For the purpose of  
5 this subsection, "administrative purposes" does not include  
6 expenditures for information technology and computerization needed for  
7 tracking and monitoring required by P.L. 104-193. The department shall  
8 not increase grant levels to recipients of the program authorized in  
9 RCW 74.08A.200 through 74.08A.330 and 43.330.145 and chapter 74.12 RCW.

10 (3) The department shall implement strategies that accomplish the  
11 outcome measures identified in RCW 74.08A.410 that are within the  
12 funding constraints in this section. Specifically, the department  
13 shall implement strategies that will cause the number of cases in the  
14 program authorized in RCW 74.08A.200 through 74.08A.330 and 43.330.145  
15 and chapter 74.12 RCW to decrease by at least fifteen percent during  
16 the 1997-99 biennium and by at least five percent in the subsequent  
17 biennium. The department may transfer appropriation authority between  
18 funding categories within the economic services program in order to  
19 carry out the requirements of this subsection.

20 (4) The department shall monitor expenditures against the  
21 appropriation levels provided for in subsection (1) of this section.  
22 The department shall quarterly make a determination as to whether  
23 expenditure levels will exceed available funding and communicate its  
24 finding to the legislature. If the determination indicates that  
25 expenditures will exceed funding at the end of the fiscal year, the  
26 department shall take all necessary actions to ensure that all services  
27 provided under this chapter shall be made available only to the extent  
28 of the availability and level of appropriation made by the legislature.

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