
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2548

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By House Committee on Children & Family Services (originally sponsored by Representatives Dickerson, Pettigrew, Darneille, Boldt, Miloscia, Bailey, Shabro, McIntire, Schual-Berke, Moeller, Chase and Santos)

READ FIRST TIME 02/06/04.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a food bank outreach pilot program;
2 adding a new section to chapter 74.04 RCW; creating a new section; and
3 providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that there is an
6 unacceptably high level of hunger in Washington. Washington has
7 repeatedly ranked in the top five states with the highest levels of
8 hunger. Though many people in Washington have been assisted by the
9 food stamp program, there are significant numbers of eligible families
10 who do not receive food stamps. One of the barriers to receiving food
11 stamps is the burdensome application process. The legislature finds
12 that it is important to take steps to increase access and participation
13 in the food stamp program.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 74.04 RCW
15 to read as follows:

16 (1) The department of social and health services shall request a
17 waiver of the interview requirement for all Basic Food applications
18 completed by Basic Food outreach contractors. If the department is not

1 granted a federal waiver by January 1, 2005, the food bank outreach
2 pilot program is created. The purpose of the food bank outreach
3 program is to improve access to department of social and health
4 services food assistance programs by coordinating with existing food
5 bank sites. The pilot program is designed to locate a department of
6 social and health services intake worker at each pilot site a minimum
7 of one time per week in order to improve access to department programs
8 and services.

9 (2) The department shall implement the food bank outreach pilot
10 program no later than January 1, 2005.

11 (3) The department shall select six pilot sites with three sites to
12 be located in eastern Washington and three sites to be located in
13 western Washington. To be eligible as a pilot site, the site must
14 consist of an organization that provides food to hungry and low-income
15 individuals.

16 (4) The department shall schedule an intake worker to regularly be
17 available at the pilot site to assist clients. The intake worker shall
18 be scheduled no less than one time per week at each site.

19 (5) The department shall adopt rules as necessary under chapter
20 34.05 RCW to implement the pilot program established under this
21 section.

22 (6) The food bank outreach pilot program expires December 31, 2005.

23 (7) The department shall submit a report to the legislature that
24 summarizes the effectiveness of the program by December 31, 2005.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act expires December 31, 2005.

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