H-1435.1

HOUSE BILL 1867

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2005 Regular Session

By Representatives Kagi and McIntire

Read first time 02/09/2005. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

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

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- 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 read as follows:
 - The department of social and health services shall operate the Washington WorkFirst program authorized under RCW 74.08A.200 through 74.08A.330, 43.330.145, 74.13.0903 and 74.25.040, and chapter 74.12 RCW within the following constraints:
 - (1) The full amount of the temporary assistance for needy families block grant, plus qualifying state expenditures as appropriated in the biennial operating budget, shall be appropriated to the department each year in the biennial appropriations act to carry out the provisions of the program authorized in RCW 74.08A.200 through 74.08A.330, 43.330.145, 74.13.0903 and 74.25.040, and chapter 74.12 RCW.
- (2) The legislature shall appropriate and the department ((may))
 shall expend funds defined in subsection (1) of this section in ((any))
 a manner that will effectively accomplish the outcome measures defined
 in RCW 74.08A.410. Expenditure of amounts under subsection (1) of this

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

- (3) The department shall implement strategies that accomplish the outcome measures identified in RCW 74.08A.410 that are within the funding constraints in this section. Specifically, the department shall implement strategies that will cause the number of cases in the program authorized in RCW 74.08A.200 through 74.08A.330 and 43.330.145 and chapter 74.12 RCW to decrease by at least fifteen percent during the 1997-99 biennium and by at least five percent in the subsequent biennium. The department may transfer appropriation authority between funding categories within the economic services program in order to carry out the requirements of this subsection.
- (4) The department shall monitor expenditures against the appropriation levels provided for in subsection (1) of this section. The department shall quarterly make a determination as to whether expenditure levels will exceed available funding and communicate its finding to the legislature. If the determination indicates that expenditures will exceed funding at the end of the fiscal year, the department shall take all necessary actions to ensure that all services provided under this chapter shall be made available only to the extent of the availability and level of appropriation made by the legislature.

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