
HOUSE BILL 2784

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2008 Regular Session

By Representatives Dickerson, Cody, and Schual-Berke

Read first time 01/16/08. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to the intensive case management and integrated
2 response pilot programs; amending RCW 70.96A.800, 70.96B.020,
3 70.96B.800, and 70.96B.900; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.96A.800 and 2005 c 504 s 220 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) The secretary shall select and contract with counties to
8 provide intensive case management for chemically dependent persons with
9 histories of high utilization of crisis services at two sites. In
10 selecting the two sites, the secretary shall endeavor to site one in an
11 urban county, and one in a rural county; and to site them in counties
12 other than those selected pursuant to RCW 70.96B.020, to the extent
13 necessary to facilitate evaluation of pilot project results.

14 (2) The contracted sites shall implement the pilot programs by
15 providing intensive case management to persons with a primary chemical
16 dependency diagnosis or dual primary chemical dependency and mental
17 health diagnoses, through the employment of chemical dependency case
18 managers. The chemical dependency case managers shall:

1 (a) Be trained in and use the integrated, comprehensive screening
2 and assessment process adopted under RCW 70.96C.010;

3 (b) Reduce the use of crisis medical, chemical dependency and
4 mental health services, including but not limited to, emergency room
5 admissions, hospitalizations, detoxification programs, inpatient
6 psychiatric admissions, involuntary treatment petitions, emergency
7 medical services, and ambulance services;

8 (c) Reduce the use of emergency first responder services including
9 police, fire, emergency medical, and ambulance services;

10 (d) Reduce the number of criminal justice interventions including
11 arrests, violations of conditions of supervision, bookings, jail days,
12 prison sanction day for violations, court appearances, and prosecutor
13 and defense costs;

14 (e) Where appropriate and available, work with therapeutic courts
15 including drug courts and mental health courts to maximize the outcomes
16 for the individual and reduce the likelihood of reoffense;

17 (f) Coordinate with local offices of the economic services
18 administration to assist the person in accessing and remaining enrolled
19 in those programs to which the person may be entitled;

20 (g) Where appropriate and available, coordinate with primary care
21 and other programs operated through the federal government including
22 federally qualified health centers, Indian health programs, and
23 veterans' health programs for which the person is eligible to reduce
24 duplication of services and conflicts in case approach;

25 (h) Where appropriate, advocate for the client's needs to assist
26 the person in achieving and maintaining stability and progress toward
27 recovery;

28 (i) Document the numbers of persons with co-occurring mental and
29 substance abuse disorders and the point of determination of the co-
30 occurring disorder by quadrant of intensity of need; and

31 (j) Where a program participant is under supervision by the
32 department of corrections, collaborate with the department of
33 corrections to maximize treatment outcomes and reduce the likelihood of
34 reoffense.

35 (3) The pilot programs established by this section shall begin
36 providing services by March 1, 2006.

37 (4) This section expires June 30, (~~2008~~) 2009.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 70.96B.020 and 2005 c 504 s 203 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (1) The secretary, after consulting with the Washington state
4 association of counties, shall select and contract with regional
5 support networks or counties to provide two integrated crisis response
6 and involuntary treatment pilot programs for adults and shall allocate
7 resources for both integrated services and secure detoxification
8 services in the pilot areas. In selecting the two regional support
9 networks or counties, the secretary shall endeavor to site one in an
10 urban and one in a rural regional support network or county; and to
11 site them in counties other than those selected pursuant to RCW
12 70.96A.800, to the extent necessary to facilitate evaluation of pilot
13 project results. During state fiscal year 2009, contracts for pilot
14 programs under this section must be limited to those counties that have
15 contracted with the department to act as a regional support network.
16 To the extent that this limitation results in the termination of a
17 pilot program at the end of state fiscal year 2008, the department
18 shall select an alternative regional support network to operate the
19 pilot program in a different county during state fiscal year 2009. In
20 making the selection, the secretary shall offer a contract to a single
21 county regional support network in an urban area east of the Cascade
22 mountains. If that regional support network chooses not to operate the
23 pilot program, the secretary may select another regional support
24 network in an urban area.

25 (2) The regional support networks or counties shall implement the
26 pilot programs by providing integrated crisis response and involuntary
27 treatment to persons with a chemical dependency, a mental disorder, or
28 both, consistent with this chapter. The pilot programs shall:

29 (a) Combine the crisis responder functions of a designated mental
30 health professional under chapter 71.05 RCW and a designated chemical
31 dependency specialist under chapter 70.96A RCW by establishing a new
32 designated crisis responder who is authorized to conduct investigations
33 and detain persons up to seventy-two hours to the proper facility;

34 (b) Provide training to the crisis responders as required by the
35 department;

36 (c) Provide sufficient staff and resources to ensure availability
37 of an adequate number of crisis responders twenty-four hours a day,
38 seven days a week;

1 (d) Provide the administrative and court-related staff, resources,
2 and processes necessary to facilitate the legal requirements of the
3 initial detention and the commitment hearings for persons with a
4 chemical dependency;

5 (e) Participate in the evaluation and report to assess the outcomes
6 of the pilot programs including providing data and information as
7 requested;

8 (f) Provide the other services necessary to the implementation of
9 the pilot programs, consistent with this chapter as determined by the
10 secretary in contract; and

11 (g) Collaborate with the department of corrections where persons
12 detained or committed are also subject to supervision by the department
13 of corrections.

14 (3) The pilot programs established by this section shall begin
15 providing services by March 1, 2006. Any alternative pilot program
16 location established under subsection (1) of this section shall begin
17 providing services by September 1, 2008.

18 **Sec. 3.** RCW 70.96B.800 and 2005 c 504 s 217 are each amended to
19 read as follows:

20 (1) The Washington state institute for public policy shall evaluate
21 the pilot programs and make ((a)) preliminary reports to appropriate
22 committees of the legislature by December 1, 2007, and June 30, 2008,
23 and a final report by ((~~September 30, 2008~~)) June 30, 2010.

24 (2) The evaluation of the pilot programs shall include:

25 (a) Whether the designated crisis responder pilot program:

26 (i) Has increased efficiency of evaluation and treatment of persons
27 involuntarily detained for seventy-two hours;

28 (ii) Is cost-effective;

29 (iii) Results in better outcomes for persons involuntarily
30 detained;

31 (iv) Increased the effectiveness of the crisis response system in
32 the pilot catchment areas;

33 (b) The effectiveness of providing a single chapter in the Revised
34 Code of Washington to address initial detention of persons with mental
35 disorders or chemical dependency, in crisis response situations and the
36 likelihood of effectiveness of providing a single, comprehensive
37 involuntary treatment act.

1 (3) The reports shall consider the impact of the pilot programs on
2 the existing mental health system and on the persons served by the
3 system.

4 **Sec. 4.** RCW 70.96B.900 and 2005 c 504 s 219 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 Sections 202 through 216 of this act expire (~~July 1, 2008~~) June
7 30, 2009.

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