
SENATE BILL 6479

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2008 Regular Session

By Senators Zarelli, Prentice, Rasmussen, and Roach

Read first time 01/17/08. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to screening and treating children with attachment
2 disorders; creating new sections; making appropriations; and providing
3 expiration dates.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes many children in
6 state care have suffered physical, mental, and emotional abuse and
7 neglect, resulting in an inability to trust or develop healthy
8 relationships with others, a condition referred to as reactive
9 attachment disorder.

10 It is the intent of this act to create a single county pilot
11 project that will deliver a comprehensive and integrated approach to
12 the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of reactive attachment
13 disorder. The goal of the pilot project is to develop an intake tool
14 and evidence-based intervention services to permit early recognition
15 and treatment of children with reactive attachment disorder served by
16 the children and family services division of the department of social
17 and health services.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The department shall institute a pilot
2 program providing the services required by this act. The pilot program
3 shall be conducted within the confines of Clark county, providing
4 services to children served by the children and family services
5 division of the department within that county.

6 For purposes of this act, the following definitions apply:

7 (1) "Department" means the department of social and health
8 services.

9 (2) "Provider" means a private child development program provider
10 with experience in the diagnosis and treatment of children with
11 reactive attachment disorder.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The department shall contract with a
13 provider to develop an intake tool for screening and assessing reactive
14 attachment disorder in children served by the department's children and
15 family services division.

16 (2) The intake tool shall be developed no later than September 1,
17 2008.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The department shall contract with the
19 provider selected in section 3 of this act for screening children
20 served by the department's children and family services division for
21 reactive attachment disorder using the intake tool.

22 (2) Children under the age of nine entering the foster care system
23 shall be screened and assessed for reactive attachment disorder.

24 (3) Additional children may be referred by the department for
25 screening based upon available resources.

26 (4) In addition to the services in subsection (1) of this section,
27 the provider shall provide training to enable the intake tool to be
28 effectively and properly utilized by appropriate department personnel.

29 (5) The department shall pay for the screening services provided to
30 a child under this section.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) The department shall contract with the
32 provider selected in section 3 of this act for the provision of
33 integrated and evidence-based intervention services for children
34 diagnosed with reactive attachment disorder.

1 (2) In addition to services in subsection (1) of this section, the
2 provider shall provide training to enable the intervention services to
3 be effectively and properly utilized by appropriate department
4 personnel.

5 (3) The department shall pay for the intervention services provided
6 to a child under this section.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The joint legislative audit and review
8 committee shall conduct a study of the pilot program. The study shall
9 evaluate the effectiveness of the intake tool and treatment service
10 model provided in the pilot program. The committee shall provide a
11 report and recommendations to the legislature no later than December 1,
12 2010.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** (1) The sum of one million dollars, or as
14 much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year
15 ending June 30, 2009, from the general fund to the department of social
16 and health services for the purposes of this act.

17 (2) The sum of one million dollars, or as much thereof as may be
18 necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010,
19 from the general fund to the department of social and health services
20 for the purposes of this act.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** (1) Sections 1 through 5 and 7 of this act
22 expire June 30, 2010.

23 (2) Section 6 of this act expires December 1, 2010.

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