
SENATE BILL 5141

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senators Hargrove, Regala, and Shin

Read first time 01/15/09. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to a pilot program to increase family participation
2 in juvenile offender programs; adding a new section to chapter 13.40
3 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The state has invested significantly in
6 juvenile offender programs identified by the Washington state institute
7 for public policy as having a positive cost-benefit ratio for taxpayers
8 as the result of reductions in recidivism. Some of these programs
9 demonstrate increased rates of success for juvenile offenders when his
10 or her family appropriately participates in the needed programming.
11 Parents may be more likely to participate if participation does not
12 result in a financial burden. Therefore, it is the intent of the
13 legislature to increase incentives for appropriate and successful
14 participation in evidence-based juvenile offender programs in order to
15 further reduce juvenile offender recidivism, reduce crime, and increase
16 fiscal benefits to the state.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 13.40 RCW
18 to read as follows:

1 (1) To the extent that funds are specifically appropriated for this
2 purpose, the department of social and health services juvenile
3 rehabilitation services administration shall establish a pilot program
4 to promote increased participation and success in juvenile offender
5 evidence-based programs for juveniles under the jurisdiction of a
6 county or the department, and their families.

7 (2) The pilot program shall provide that a person who is a parent
8 of a juvenile, legal guardian, or other person acting in that role for
9 the purposes of the treatment program shall receive an incentive for
10 consenting to and participating in good faith in a program recommended
11 by the department as appropriate for participation by the child and the
12 person. The incentive is intended to motivate program participation
13 and performance, reinforce successful program completion, and mitigate
14 the costs of participation. The structure, amount, and disbursement of
15 incentives shall be determined by the department in consultation with
16 the University of Washington school of medicine's department of
17 psychiatry and behavioral sciences division of public behavioral health
18 and justice and the evidence-based program model developers.

19 (3) The department, after consulting with the University of
20 Washington, shall select and contract with one or more counties to
21 serve as pilot sites. To be eligible, a county must have imposed the
22 sales and use tax authorized by RCW 82.14.460. In selecting the two
23 pilot sites, the department shall endeavor to site one in an urban and
24 one in a rural county. The participating juvenile offenders may
25 include juvenile offenders residing in a county that has a pilot site,
26 who are under the jurisdiction of either the county or state.

27 (4) The department shall determine financial guidelines for
28 participation in the pilot program and guidelines for administration of
29 the pilot program in consultation with the University of Washington
30 school of medicine's department of psychiatry and behavioral sciences
31 division of public behavioral health and justice in development of the
32 guidelines and policies.

33 (5) The pilot program shall be limited to evidence-based programs
34 identified by the Washington state institute for public policy in its
35 October 2006 report: "Evidence-Based Public Policy Options to Reduce
36 Future Prison Construction, Criminal Justice Costs and Crime Rates"
37 which have been identified as having a positive benefit-cost ratio.

38 (6) The pilot program shall be operational by March 1, 2010.

1 (7) The department shall contract with the University of Washington
2 to provide support and assistance in all phases of the pilot program,
3 including initiating, implementing, training providers, providing
4 quality assurance, and monitoring implementation.

5 (8) The department, in cooperation with the University of
6 Washington, shall evaluate the results of the pilot program, including
7 whether there is any increase in juvenile or family participation in
8 the programs identified in subsection (5) of this section, any increase
9 in successful completion of services by the juvenile and his or her
10 family or legal guardian or custodian, and any reduction in recidivism
11 for a juvenile participating in the pilot program. The department and
12 the University of Washington shall provide a preliminary report to the
13 governor and the legislature on the results of the pilot program by
14 December 1, 2011, and a final report by December 1, 2013.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If any provision of this act or its
16 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
17 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
18 persons or circumstances is not affected.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act expires June 30, 2014.

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