

---

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2279**

---

**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2024 Regular Session**

**By** House Human Services, Youth, & Early Learning (originally sponsored by Representatives Farivar, Couture, Kloba, Taylor, Cheney, Peterson, Caldier, Barnard, Simmons, and Macri)

READ FIRST TIME 01/31/24.

1 AN ACT Relating to utilization of developmental disabilities  
2 waivers; and adding a new section to chapter 71A.10 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 71A.10  
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 When enrolling eligible clients in open home and community-based  
7 services waiver slots and for purposes of determining access to  
8 specific waiver services, to the extent consistent with federal law  
9 and federal funding requirements, the administration shall prioritize  
10 clients in the following populations in addition to any other  
11 statutorily prioritized populations:

12 (1) Persons with developmental disabilities who are age 45 and  
13 older;

14 (2) Persons with developmental disabilities who, within the  
15 previous six months, have remained in a hospital without medical  
16 necessity due to lack of availability of community-based services and  
17 supports; and

18 (3) Persons who are discharging from residential habilitation  
19 centers.

--- END ---