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ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 5691

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State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Senators Warnick and Shewmake

1 AN ACT Relating to resource and assessment centers; and amending  
2 RCW 74.15.311.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.15.311 and 2013 c 105 s 3 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The secretary is authorized to license resource and  
7 assessment centers if the agency meets the following requirements:

8 (a) There is a demonstrated need in the local community for a  
9 resource and assessment center; and

10 (b) The resource and assessment center will be primarily staffed  
11 by trained volunteers (~~and~~

12 ~~(c) The resource and assessment center demonstrates it is not~~  
13 ~~financially dependent on reimbursement from the state to operate)).~~

14 (2) The department may adopt rules to specify licensing  
15 requirements for resource and assessment centers. Rules adopted by  
16 the department shall allow:

17 (a) A sufficient number of trained volunteers to meet staffing  
18 requirements;

19 (b) Flexibility in hours of operation and not require the  
20 resource and assessment center to be open if there are no children in  
21 its care; and

1 (c) The ability to operate in a residential area.  
2 (3) Resource and assessment centers licensed under this section  
3 may:  
4 (a) Provide care for children ages birth through ~~((twelve, or for~~  
5 ~~children ages thirteen through seventeen who have a sibling or~~  
6 ~~siblings under thirteen years of age who are being admitted to the~~  
7 ~~resource and assessment center))~~ 17 at the discretion of the resource  
8 and assessment center; ((and))  
9 (b) Operate up to ~~((twenty-four))~~ 24 hours per day, and for up to  
10 seven days per week(~~(-~~  
11 ~~(4) Resource and assessment centers may not be))~~);  
12 (c) Provide care for children for up to three business days, or  
13 up to seven business days with department approval;  
14 (d) Be used to ((address)) provide emergency initial care for  
15 children as they enter foster care; and  
16 (e) Address placement disruptions for children who have not been  
17 removed from a foster home because of the child's behavior or safety  
18 concerns.

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