SENATE BILL 5943

State of Washington 68th Legislature 2024 Regular Session

By Senators Gildon, Boehnke, Hasegawa, and C. Wilson

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- AN ACT Relating to developing a resource data tool to connect Washington residents to services and resources; adding new sections
- 3 to chapter 43.211 RCW; and providing an expiration date.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

The legislature finds that Washington 5 NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. 6 residents would benefit from having a quick and seamless digital way 7 to connect to services and that state agencies should explore opportunities to provide such services in a way that builds off of 8 the work of their peers by maximizing the state's investments and 9 10 reducing the duplication of staff efforts in the provision of 11 services. The legislature finds that the advisory group created in this act will have the expertise and experience to bring together 12 ideas for developing a resource data tool, which includes a mobile 13 application and web portal, that may assist Washington residents in 14 15 gaining access to a variety of existing services, such as social, 16 behavioral health, and housing services. While many providers, both public and private, currently offer these types of services in 17 18 Washington, the residents of our state do not always have an easy way 19 to learn more about, and use, those services. It is the intent of the 20 legislature that the advisory group created in this 21 collaborate with WIN 211, as defined in RCW 43.211.020, in providing

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- 1 a plan for developing a resource data tool that will easily connect
- 2 Washingtonians to the services they may need and that will ensure the
- 3 services are provided in an efficient, cost-effective manner.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, WIN 211 shall develop and implement a resource data tool. The development of the resource data tool must be performed in collaboration with the advisory group created in section 3 of this act.
- 9 (2) The resource data tool developed by WIN 211 shall include a 10 mobile application for the purpose of assisting users in accessing 11 state and private resources and services. The mobile application must 12 be named "Whole WA."
 - (3) Before a state agency, department, or funded program that provides health and human services establishes a new public community resource database, internet-based directory, or mobile application, the state agency, department, or program shall consult with WIN 211 about accessing resource data through the "Whole WA" resource data tool to ensure no duplication of service or cost to the state.
- 19 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 3.** (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, WIN 211 shall convene a 20 "Whole WA" advisory group. The advisory group shall be composed of 21 22 experts, interested parties, and other similar stakeholders, convened 23 by WIN 211. The purpose of the advisory group created in this section 24 is to develop a plan and framework for launching the resource data 25 tool, including a web portal and mobile application, making public and private services and programs more accessible. The advisory group 26 27 created in this section shall complete development and launch of the 28 resource data tool no later than January 1, 2025. The advisory group 29 created in this section is dissolved upon the expiration of this 30 section.
- 31 (2) This section expires January 1, 2025.

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32 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 4.** Sections 1 through 3 of this act are each 33 added to chapter 43.211 RCW.

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