
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2319

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2026 Regular Session

By House Early Learning & Human Services (originally sponsored by Representatives Farivar, Penner, Reed, Scott, Thomas, and Hill)

READ FIRST TIME 01/27/26.

1 AN ACT Relating to renaming certain state residential facilities
2 for persons with developmental disabilities; amending RCW
3 28A.190.005, 28B.30.810, 43.382.801, 71A.20.020, 71A.20.030,
4 71A.20.170, 71A.20.180, 71A.20.191, 71A.20.195, 72.01.050, and
5 72.05.010; and creating new sections.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that Washington
8 maintains a system of residential habilitation centers providing
9 residential habilitative support for primarily adult individuals with
10 developmental disabilities. Services at these facilities include
11 medical and dental treatment, training in daily living skills,
12 nursing services, employment services, and myriad other therapies and
13 supports. Three of the four residential habilitation centers that are
14 currently in use, as well as one former facility, are officially
15 referred to in statute as schools. This does not accurately reflect
16 the primary function or purpose of these facilities.

17 Therefore, the legislature intends to officially rename some of
18 these facilities residential habilitation centers. The legislature
19 does not intend to change the purpose or operations of these
20 facilities in any way by renaming them, nor does it intend for the
21 renaming to have any direct or indirect effect on access to funding

1 for these facilities; rather, it seeks to clarify that these are
2 habilitative facilities, rather than educational institutions, and
3 make the names of the residential habilitation centers consistent
4 with their function.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The following residential habilitation
6 centers are renamed:

7 (a) Fircrest school is renamed Fircrest residential habilitation
8 center; and

9 (b) Rainier school is renamed Rainier residential habilitation
10 center.

11 (2) Lakeland Village residential habilitation center will
12 continue to be named Lakeland Village residential habilitation
13 center.

14 (3) References to the former Interlake school will be to
15 Interlake residential habilitation center.

16 (4) Any existing references to Fircrest school or Rainier school
17 retain full force and effect as would a reference to the updated
18 names as identified in subsection (1) of this section.

19 (5) The department of social and health services shall update
20 rules and make other changes necessary to reflect the current names
21 of the facilities as identified in this section.

22 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.190.005 and 2021 c 164 s 3 are each amended to
23 read as follows:

24 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter
25 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

26 (1) "Institutional education facility" means residential
27 habilitation and child study and treatment centers operated by the
28 department of social and health services, state long-term juvenile
29 institutions operated by the department of children, youth, and
30 families, state-operated community facilities, county juvenile
31 detention centers, and facilities of the department of corrections
32 that incarcerate juveniles committed as adults.

33 (2) "Institutional education program" means the program of
34 education that is provided to youth in institutional education
35 facilities as a mandatory component of the program of basic education
36 under RCW 28A.150.200.

37 (3) "Institutional education provider" or "provider" means a
38 school district, educational service district, or other entity

1 providing education services to youth in an institutional education
2 facility.

3 (4) "Postresident youth" means a person who is under the age of
4 21 and a former resident of an institutional education facility. A
5 postresident youth may be a public school student or a person who is
6 eligible to be a public school student but who is not enrolled in a
7 school or otherwise receiving basic education services.

8 (5) "Residential school" means the following institutional
9 education facilities: Green Hill school, Naselle Youth Camp, Echo
10 Glen, Lakeland Village residential habilitation center, Rainier
11 (~~school~~) residential habilitation center, Yakima Valley school,
12 Fircrest (~~school~~) residential habilitation center, the Child Study
13 and Treatment Center and Secondary School of western state hospital,
14 and other schools, camps, and centers established by the department
15 of social and health services or the department of children, youth,
16 and families for the diagnosis, confinement, and rehabilitation of
17 juveniles committed by the courts or for the care and treatment of
18 persons who are exceptional in their needs by reason of mental or
19 physical deficiency. "Residential school" does not include the state
20 schools for the blind, the Washington state center for childhood
21 deafness and hearing loss, or adult correctional institutions.

22 (6) "School district" has the same meaning as in RCW 28A.315.025
23 and includes any educational service district that has entered into
24 an agreement to provide a program of education for residents at an
25 institutional education facility on behalf of the school district as
26 a cooperative service program pursuant to RCW 28A.310.180.

27 (7) "Youth" means a person who is under the age of 21 who is a
28 resident of an institutional education facility. A youth may be a
29 public school student or a person who is eligible to be a public
30 school student but who is not enrolled in a school or otherwise
31 receiving basic education services.

32 **Sec. 4.** RCW 28B.30.810 and 1988 c 57 s 1 are each amended to
33 read as follows:

34 (1) Washington State University shall establish and operate a
35 dairy/forage and agricultural research facility at the Rainier
36 (~~school~~) residential habilitation center farm.

37 (2) Local funds generated through operation of this facility
38 shall be managed in a revolving fund, established herewith, by the
39 university. This fund shall consist of all moneys received in

1 connection with the operation of the facility and any moneys
2 appropriated to the fund by law. Disbursements from the revolving
3 fund shall be on authorization of the president of the university or
4 the president's designee. In order to maintain an effective
5 expenditure and revenue control, this fund, to be known as the dairy/
6 forage facility revolving fund, shall be subject in all respects to
7 chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is required to permit
8 expenditures and payment of obligations from the fund.

9 (3) In the event state funding is not sufficient to operate the
10 dairy cattle herd, the university is authorized to lease the herd,
11 together with the land necessary to maintain the same, for such
12 period and upon such terms as the university board of regents shall
13 deem proper.

14 **Sec. 5.** RCW 43.382.801 and 2025 c 410 s 4 are each amended to
15 read as follows:

16 (1) By November 1, 2028, and in compliance with RCW 43.01.036,
17 the office of the developmental (~~(disability—[disabilities])~~)
18 disabilities ombuds shall submit a report to the appropriate
19 committees of the legislature that includes summaries of resident,
20 parent, and guardian feedback regarding transition of residents out
21 of the Rainier (~~(school)~~) residential habilitation center following
22 July 27, 2025.

23 (2) This section expires July 1, 2029.

24 **Sec. 6.** RCW 71A.20.020 and 2025 c 410 s 1 are each amended to
25 read as follows:

26 (1) Except as provided in subsections (2) and (3) of this
27 section, the following residential habilitation centers are
28 permanently established to provide services to persons with
29 developmental disabilities: Lakeland Village residential habilitation
30 center, located at Medical Lake, Spokane county; Rainier (~~(school)~~)
31 residential habilitation center, located at Buckley, Pierce county;
32 Yakima Valley school, located at Selah, Yakima county; and Fircrest
33 (~~(school)~~) residential habilitation center, located at Seattle, King
34 county.

35 (2) The Yakima Valley school, located at Selah, Yakima county,
36 shall cease to operate as a residential habilitation center when the
37 conditions in RCW 71A.20.180(1)(a) are met.

1 (3) The Rainier (~~school~~) residential habilitation center,
2 located at Buckley, Pierce county shall cease to operate as a
3 residential habilitation center when the conditions in RCW
4 71A.20.191(5) are met.

5 **Sec. 7.** RCW 71A.20.030 and 1988 c 176 s 703 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) The secretary may use surplus physical facilities at eastern
8 state hospital as a residential habilitation center, which shall be
9 known as the "Interlake (~~School~~) residential habilitation center."

10 (2) The secretary may designate and select such buildings and
11 facilities and tracts of land at eastern state hospital that are
12 surplus to the needs of the department for mentally ill persons and
13 that are reasonably necessary and adequate for services for persons
14 with developmental disabilities. The secretary shall also designate
15 those buildings, equipment, and facilities which are to be used
16 jointly and mutually by both eastern state hospital and Interlake
17 (~~School~~) residential habilitation center.

18 **Sec. 8.** RCW 71A.20.170 and 2020 c 250 s 1 are each amended to
19 read as follows:

20 (1) The developmental disabilities community services account is
21 created in the state treasury.

22 (2) The following revenues must be deposited in the account:

23 (a) All net proceeds from leases or sales of real property,
24 conservation easements, and sales of timber, from the state
25 properties at the Fircrest residential habilitation center, the
26 Lakeland Village residential habilitation center, the Rainier
27 (~~school~~) residential habilitation center, and the Yakima Valley
28 school. However, real property that is determined by the department
29 of social and health services to be required for the operations of
30 the residential habilitation centers is excluded from the real
31 property that may be leased or sold for the benefit of the account.
32 In addition, real property owned by the charitable, educational,
33 penal, and reformatory institutions trust, and revenue therefrom, is
34 excluded; and

35 (b) Any other moneys appropriated or transferred to the account
36 by the legislature.

37 (3) Any sale, lease, or easement under this section must be at
38 fair market value.

1 (4) Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation.
2 Expenditures from the account shall be used exclusively for:

3 (a) Supports and services in a community setting to benefit
4 eligible persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities; or

5 (b) Investment expenses of the state investment board.

6 (5) The department of social and health services must solicit
7 recommendations from the Washington state developmental disabilities
8 council regarding expenditure of moneys from the Dan Thompson
9 memorial developmental disabilities community services account for
10 supports and services in a community setting to benefit eligible
11 persons with developmental disabilities.

12 (6) Expenditures from the account must supplement, and may not
13 replace, supplant, or reduce current state expenditure levels for
14 supports and services in the community setting for eligible persons
15 with developmental disabilities.

16 (7) (a) The state investment board must invest moneys in the
17 account. The state investment board has the full power to invest,
18 reinvest, manage, contract, sell, or exchange investment money in the
19 account. All investment and operating costs associated with the
20 investment of money shall be paid under RCW 43.33A.160 and 43.84.160.

21 (b) All investments made by the state investment board shall be
22 made with the degree of judgment and care required under RCW
23 43.33A.140 and the investment policy established by the state
24 investment board.

25 (c) The state investment board shall routinely consult and
26 communicate with the department of social and health services and the
27 legislature on the investment policy, earnings of the account, and
28 related needs of the account.

29 (8) The account shall be known as the Dan Thompson memorial
30 developmental disabilities community services account.

31 **Sec. 9.** RCW 71A.20.180 and 2017 3rd sp.s. c 19 s 1 are each
32 amended to read as follows:

33 (1) (a) The Yakima Valley school shall continue to operate as a
34 residential habilitation center until such time that the census of
35 permanent residents has reached eight persons. Upon such time as the
36 facility closes to full residential care, the facility must
37 thereafter operate crisis stabilization beds and only so many respite
38 service beds as the needs of the department-identified catchment area

1 or as emergency placement needs require, subject to the availability
2 of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose.

3 (b) As of October 19, 2017, no new long-term admissions are
4 permitted.

5 (2) The department, within available funds:

6 (a) Shall establish state-operated living alternatives, within
7 funds specifically provided in the omnibus appropriations act, to
8 provide community residential services to residential habilitation
9 center residents transitioning to the community under chapter 30,
10 Laws of 2011 1st sp. sess. who prefer a state-operated living
11 alternative. The department shall offer residential habilitation
12 center employees opportunities to work in state-operated living
13 alternatives as they are established;

14 (b) May use existing supported living program capacity in the
15 community for former residential habilitation center residents who
16 prefer and choose a supported living program;

17 (c) Shall establish up to eight state-staffed crisis
18 stabilization beds and up to eight state-staffed respite beds based
19 upon funding provided in the omnibus appropriations act and the
20 geographic areas with the greatest need for those services;

21 (d) Shall establish regional or mobile specialty services evenly
22 distributed throughout the state, such as dental care, physical
23 therapy, occupational therapy, and specialized nursing care, which
24 can be made available to former residents of residential habilitation
25 centers and, within available funds, other individuals with
26 developmental disabilities residing in the community; and

27 (e) Shall continue to provide respite services in residential
28 habilitation centers and continue to develop respite care in the
29 community.

30 **Sec. 10.** RCW 71A.20.191 and 2025 c 410 s 2 are each amended to
31 read as follows:

32 (1)(a) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, as
33 of July 27, 2025, no new long-term admissions are permitted at the
34 Rainier (~~school~~) residential habilitation center, located at
35 Buckley, Pierce county.

36 (b) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, as of
37 June 30, 2027, no admissions of any kind are permitted at the Rainier
38 (~~school~~) residential habilitation center, located at Buckley,
39 Pierce county.

1 (2) Until the conditions in subsection (5) of this section are
2 met, a former long-term resident of the Rainier (~~school~~)
3 residential habilitation center who moves to a community-based
4 setting after July 27, 2025, shall be offered the right to return to
5 the Rainier (~~school~~) residential habilitation center once during
6 the first year following their move to the community and this shall
7 not be considered a new admission for purposes of subsection (1) of
8 this section. If a former resident of the Rainier (~~school~~)
9 residential habilitation center exercises the right to return
10 established in this subsection (2), any additional request to return
11 to the Rainier (~~school~~) residential habilitation center after a
12 second move to the community shall be reviewed by the department and
13 must be approved by the secretary, based on the recommendation from a
14 multidisciplinary care team. In addition to the right to return
15 established in this subsection (2), any former resident of the
16 Rainier (~~school~~) residential habilitation center maintains the
17 right to return to a residential habilitation center established in
18 RCW 71A.18.040 and the right to residential habilitation center
19 services when determined eligible.

20 (3) (a) The department shall:

21 (i) Provide state-operated living alternatives to residential
22 habilitation center residents transitioning to the community from the
23 Rainier (~~school~~) residential habilitation center who prefer a
24 state-operated community residential service;

25 (ii) Use supported living program and adult family home capacity
26 in the community for residents of the Rainier (~~school~~) residential
27 habilitation center who prefer and choose these settings;

28 (iii) Provide space at other residential habilitation centers to
29 residents of the Rainier (~~school~~) residential habilitation center
30 who prefer a different residential habilitation center setting; and

31 (iv) Offer employees of the Rainier (~~school~~) residential
32 habilitation center opportunities to work in state-operated living
33 alternatives and other state facilities and programs.

34 (b) Sufficient funding shall be appropriated to the department to
35 fulfill the requirements of this subsection (3).

36 (4) When assisting individuals who are transitioning out of the
37 Rainier (~~school~~) residential habilitation center the department
38 shall:

39 (a) Offer each individual resident a meaningful choice of
40 appropriate alternative placements;

1 (b) Prioritize client choice, autonomy, individual preferences,
2 medical and behavioral health care needs, and opportunities for
3 community integration;

4 (c) Develop individualized transition plans in collaboration with
5 each resident and their family or legal guardian, caregivers, and
6 support providers;

7 (d) Coordinate closely with other state agencies, local entities,
8 health care providers, and community stakeholders to ensure seamless
9 transitions;

10 (e) Provide or contract for all necessary assessments, planning,
11 relocation expenses, housing modifications, staff training, crisis
12 support, and related transition activities; and

13 (f) Implement robust oversight and accountability measures
14 related to the transitions, and regularly monitor transition
15 outcomes, as well as individual well-being and satisfaction.

16 (5) The Rainier (~~school~~) residential habilitation center,
17 located at Buckley, Pierce county shall continue to operate as a
18 residential habilitation center until such time that the census of
19 long-term residents has reached zero persons.

20 (6) "Closure" for purposes of chapter 410, Laws of 2025 means
21 prohibiting new admissions as described in subsection (1) of this
22 section.

23 **Sec. 11.** RCW 71A.20.195 and 2025 c 410 s 3 are each amended to
24 read as follows:

25 (1) The department of social and health services shall, in
26 compliance with RCW 43.01.036, submit a report to the appropriate
27 committees of the legislature on December 1, 2025, June 1, 2026,
28 December 1, 2026, June 1, 2027, June 1, 2028, and annually thereafter
29 that provides the information described in subsection (2) of this
30 section.

31 (2) The report required under subsection (1) of this section must
32 include the following:

33 (a) A point in time description of the capacity for all
34 residential settings for clients of the developmental disabilities
35 administration within the department of social and health services;

36 (b) The number of former residents who have transitioned out of
37 the Rainier (~~school~~) residential habilitation center after July 27,
38 2025, and the type of setting that the person transitioned to,
39 including additional transitions from the initial placement;

1 (c) The number of deaths of former residents who have
2 transitioned out of the Rainier (~~(school)~~) residential habilitation
3 center after July 27, 2025, and into other residential settings
4 supported by the developmental disabilities administration;

5 (d) The geographic distribution of residential placements across
6 all existing residential placements for clients of the developmental
7 disabilities administration within the department of social and
8 health services; and

9 (e) Information regarding former Rainier (~~(school)~~) residential
10 habilitation center employees who have transitioned to other state
11 employment, left the industry, or transitioned to private sector
12 employment after July 27, 2025.

13 (3) This section expires July 1, 2030.

14 **Sec. 12.** RCW 72.01.050 and 2017 3rd sp.s. c 6 s 628 are each
15 amended to read as follows:

16 (1) The secretary of social and health services shall have full
17 power to manage and govern the following public institutions: The
18 western state hospital, the eastern state hospital, the northern
19 state hospital, Lakeland Village residential habilitation center, the
20 Rainier (~~(school)~~) residential habilitation center, and such other
21 institutions as authorized by law, subject only to the limitations
22 contained in laws relating to the management of such institutions.

23 (2) The secretary of corrections shall have full power to manage,
24 govern, and name all state correctional facilities, subject only to
25 the limitations contained in laws relating to the management of such
26 institutions.

27 (3) If any state correctional facility is fully or partially
28 destroyed by natural causes or otherwise, the secretary of
29 corrections may, with the approval of the governor, provide for the
30 establishment and operation of additional residential correctional
31 facilities to place those inmates displaced by such destruction.
32 However, such additional facilities may not be established if there
33 are existing residential correctional facilities to which all of the
34 displaced inmates can be appropriately placed. The establishment and
35 operation of any additional facility shall be on a temporary basis,
36 and the facility may not be operated beyond July 1 of the year
37 following the year in which it was partially or fully destroyed.

38 (4) The secretary of the department of children, youth, and
39 families shall have full power to manage and govern Echo Glen, the

1 Green Hill school, and such other institutions as authorized by law,
2 subject only to the limitations contained in laws relating to the
3 management of such institutions.

4 **Sec. 13.** RCW 72.05.010 and 2020 c 274 s 54 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The purposes of this section and RCW (~~(72.05.010)~~) 72.05.020
7 through 72.05.210 are: To provide for every child with behavior
8 problems, persons with disabilities, and hearing and visually
9 impaired children, within the purview of this section and RCW
10 (~~(72.05.010)~~) 72.05.020 through 72.05.210, as now or hereafter
11 amended, such care, guidance and instruction, control and treatment
12 as will best serve the welfare of the child or person and society; to
13 insure nonpolitical and qualified operation, supervision, management,
14 and control of the Green Hill school, the Naselle Youth Camp, Echo
15 Glen, Lakeland Village residential habilitation center, Rainier
16 (~~(school)~~) residential habilitation center, the Yakima Valley school,
17 Fircrest (~~(school)~~) residential habilitation center, the Child Study
18 and Treatment Center and Secondary School of western state hospital,
19 and like residential state schools, camps, and centers hereafter
20 established; and to provide for the persons committed or admitted to
21 those schools and centers that type of care, instruction, and
22 treatment most likely to accomplish their rehabilitation and
23 restoration to normal citizenship.

24 (2) To further such purposes, Green Hill School, Echo Glen,
25 Naselle Youth Camp, and such other juvenile rehabilitation
26 facilities, as may hereafter be established, are placed under the
27 department of children, youth, and families; Lakeland Village
28 residential habilitation center, Rainier (~~(school)~~) residential
29 habilitation center, the Yakima Valley school, Fircrest (~~(school)~~)
30 residential habilitation center, the Child Study and Treatment Center
31 and Secondary School of western state hospital, and like residential
32 state schools, camps, and centers, hereafter established, are placed
33 under the department of social and health services.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** If any part of this act is found to be in
35 conflict with federal requirements that are a prescribed condition to
36 the allocation of federal funds to the state, the conflicting part of
37 this act is inoperative solely to the extent of the conflict and with
38 respect to the agencies directly affected, and this finding does not

1 affect the operation of the remainder of this act in its application
2 to the agencies concerned. Rules adopted under this act must meet
3 federal requirements that are a necessary condition to the receipt of
4 federal funds by the state.

--- **END** ---