

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SENATE BILL 6181

61st Legislature
2009 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate April 20, 2009
YEAS 48 NAYS 0

President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 25, 2009
YEAS 95 NAYS 0

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 6181** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

Secretary

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SENATE BILL 6181

Passed Legislature - 2009 Regular Session

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2009 Regular Session

By Senators Tom, Prentice, and Fairley

Read first time 04/16/09. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 AN ACT Relating to the intensive resource home pilot; and amending
2 RCW 74.13.800.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.13.800 and 2008 c 281 s 2 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The department shall select two geographic areas with high
7 concentrations of children with significant needs in out-of-home care
8 for implementing an intensive resource home pilot. In choosing the
9 pilot sites, the department shall: (a) Examine areas where there are
10 concentrations of children with significant behavioral challenges and
11 intensive developmental or medical needs who are being served in family
12 foster homes; (b) consider sites of appropriate size that will allow
13 for careful analysis of the impact of the intensive resource home pilot
14 on the array of out-of-home care providers, including providers of
15 behavioral rehabilitation services; and (c) determine the number of
16 children to be served in these selected sites. Implementation of the
17 program at the pilot sites also shall be structured to support the
18 long-term goal of eventual expansion of the pilot statewide.

1 (2) Based on the information gathered by the work group convened
2 under chapter 413, Laws of 2007, and the additional information
3 gathered pursuant to this section, the department shall work
4 collaboratively in:

5 (a) Seeking recommendations from foster parents and other out-of-
6 home service providers, including child placing agencies, regarding the
7 qualifications and requirements of intensive resource home providers,
8 the needs of the children to be served, and the desired outcomes to be
9 measured or monitored at the respective pilot sites; and

10 (b) Consulting with experts in child welfare, children's mental
11 health, and children's health care to identify the evidence-based or
12 promising practice models to be employed in the pilot and the
13 appropriate supports to ensure program fidelity, including, but not
14 limited to, the necessary training and clinical consultation and
15 oversight to be provided to intensive resource homes.

16 (3) Using the recommendations from foster parents, the
17 consultations with professionals as required in subsection (2)(a) and
18 (b) of this section, and the information provided in the report to the
19 legislature under chapter 413, Laws of 2007, including the information
20 presented to the work group convened to prepare and present the report,
21 the department shall implement the pilot by entering into contracts
22 with no more than seventy-five providers who are determined by the
23 department to meet the eligibility criteria for the intensive resource
24 home pilot. The department shall:

25 (a) Define the criteria for intensive resource home providers,
26 which shall include a requirement that the provider be licensed by the
27 department as a foster parent, as well as meet additional requirements
28 relating to relevant experience, education, training, and professional
29 expertise necessary to meet the high needs of children identified as
30 eligible for this pilot;

31 (b) Define criteria for identifying children with high needs who
32 may be eligible for placement with an intensive resource home provider.
33 Such criteria shall be based on the best interests of the child and
34 include an assessment of the child's past and current level of
35 functioning as well as a determination that the child's treatment plan
36 and developmental needs are consistent with the placement plan;

37 (c) Establish a policy for placement of children with high needs in

1 intensive resource homes, including a process for matching the child's
2 needs with the provider's skills and expertise;

3 (d) Establish a limit on the number and ages of children with high
4 needs that may be placed in an intensive resource home pursuant to the
5 pilot contract. Such limitation shall recognize that children with
6 externalizing behaviors are most likely to experience long-term
7 improvements in their behavior when care is provided in settings that
8 minimize exposure to peers with challenging behaviors;

9 (e) Identify one or more approved models of skill building for use
10 by intensive resource home providers, with the assistance of other
11 child welfare experts;

12 (f) Specify the training and consultation requirements that support
13 the models of service;

14 (g) Establish a system of supports, including clinical consultation
15 and oversight for intensive resource homes;

16 (h) Develop a tiered payment system, by September 30, 2008, which
17 may include a stipend to the provider, which takes into account the
18 additional responsibilities intensive resource home providers have with
19 regard to the children placed in their care. Until such time as the
20 department has developed the tiered payment system, money for
21 exceptional cost plans shall be used only for special services or
22 supplies provided to the child and shall not be used to reimburse the
23 provider for services he or she provides to the child. A stipend of
24 not more than five hundred dollars per month may be used to reimburse
25 the provider for services he or she provides directly to the child;

26 (i) Establish clearly defined responsibilities of intensive
27 resource home providers, who have an intensive resource home contract
28 including responsibilities to promote permanency and connections with
29 birth parents; and

30 (j) Develop a process for annual performance reviews of intensive
31 resource home providers.

32 (4) Contracts between the department and an intensive resource home
33 provider shall include a statement of work focusing on achieving
34 stability in placement and measuring improved permanency outcomes and
35 shall specify at least the following elements:

36 (a) The model of treatment and care to be provided;

37 (b) The training and ongoing professional consultation to be
38 provided;

1 (c) The method for determining any additional supports to be
2 provided to an eligible child or the intensive resource home provider;

3 (d) The desired outcomes to be measured;

4 (e) A reasonable and efficient process for seeking a modification
5 of the contract;

6 (f) The rate and terms of payment under the contract; and

7 (g) The term of the contract and the processes for an annual
8 performance review of the intensive resource home provider and an
9 annual assessment of the child.

10 (5) (~~Beginning on or before October 1, 2008,~~) The department
11 shall begin the selection of, and negotiation of contracts with,
12 intensive resource home providers in the selected pilot sites when
13 specific funds have been appropriated by the legislature for
14 implementation of the intensive resource home pilot.

15 (6) Nothing in chapter 281, Laws of 2008 gives a provider eligible
16 under this section the right to a contract under the intensive resource
17 home pilot, and nothing in chapter 281, Laws of 2008 gives a provider
18 that has a contract under the pilot a right to have a child or children
19 placed in the home pursuant to the contract.

20 (7) "Intensive resource home provider" means a provider who meets
21 the eligibility criteria developed by the department under this section
22 and who has an intensive resource home pilot contract with the
23 department.

24 (8) (~~The department shall report to the governor and the~~
25 ~~legislature by January 30, 2009, on the implementation of the pilot,~~
26 ~~including how the pilot fits within the continuum of out-of-home care~~
27 ~~options. Based on the experiences and lessons learned from~~
28 ~~implementation of the pilot, the department shall recommend a process~~
29 ~~and timeline for expanding the pilot and implementing it statewide.~~
30 ~~The department shall report to the governor and the appropriate members~~
31 ~~of the legislature by September 1, 2009, on the expansion, and shall~~
32 ~~identify the essential elements of the intensive resource home pilot~~
33 ~~that should be addressed or replicated if the pilot is expanded.~~

34 (+)) The department shall operate this pilot using only funds
35 appropriated specifically for the operation of this pilot. The term
36 "specifically for the operation of this pilot" includes only those
37 costs associated with the following: The administration of the pilot,

1 the stipend to eligible intensive resource home providers, training for
2 the providers, consultation for the providers, and program review
3 consultation.

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