
HOUSE BILL 2737

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Representatives Callan, Dent, Frame, Stonier, Eslick, Lovick,
Entenman, Senn, and Caldier

1 AN ACT Relating to revising the name, term, membership, and
2 duties of the children's mental health work group; and amending RCW
3 74.09.4951.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.09.4951 and 2019 c 360 s 2 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) (~~(A children's mental)~~) The children and youth behavioral
8 health work group is established to identify barriers to and
9 opportunities for accessing (~~(mental)~~) behavioral health services for
10 children from prenatal up to age twenty-five, and their families, and
11 to advise the legislature on statewide (~~(mental)~~) behavioral health
12 services for this population.

13 (2) The work group shall consist of members and alternates as
14 provided in this subsection. Members must represent the regional,
15 racial, and cultural diversity of all children and families in the
16 state. (~~(Members of the children's mental health work group created~~
17 ~~in chapter 96, Laws of 2016, and serving on the work group as of~~
18 ~~December 1, 2017, may continue to serve as members of the work group~~
19 ~~without reappointment.)~~)

20 (a) The president of the senate shall appoint one member and one
21 alternate from each of the two largest caucuses in the senate.

1 (b) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint one
2 member and one alternate from each of the two largest caucuses in the
3 house of representatives.

4 (c) The governor shall appoint (~~(six)~~) five members representing
5 the following state agencies and offices: The department of children,
6 youth, and families; (~~(the department of social and health~~
7 ~~services;))~~ the health care authority; the department of health; the
8 office of homeless youth prevention and protection programs; and the
9 office of the governor.

10 (d) The governor shall appoint (~~(one member representing each~~
11 ~~of))~~ the following members:

12 (i) (~~(Behavioral)~~) One representative of behavioral health
13 administrative services organizations;

14 (ii) (~~(Community)~~) One representative of community mental health
15 agencies;

16 (iii) (~~(Medicaid)~~) One representative of medicaid managed care
17 organizations;

18 (iv) (~~(A)~~) One regional provider of co-occurring disorder
19 services;

20 (v) (~~(Pediatricians)~~) One pediatrician or primary care
21 provider(s);

22 (vi) (~~(Providers)~~) One provider specializing in infant or early
23 childhood mental health;

24 (vii) (~~(Child health advocacy groups)~~) One representative who
25 advocates for behavioral health issues on behalf of children and
26 youth;

27 (viii) (~~(Early)~~) One representative of early learning and child
28 care providers;

29 (ix) (~~(The)~~) One representative of the evidence-based practice
30 institute;

31 (x) (~~(Parents)~~) Two parents or caregivers of children who have
32 (~~(been the recipient of early childhood mental))~~ received behavioral
33 health services, one of which must have a child under the age of six;

34 (xi) (~~(A)~~) One representative of an education or teaching
35 institution that provides training for mental health professionals;

36 (xii) (~~(Foster)~~) One foster parent(s);

37 (xiii) (~~(Providers)~~) One representative of providers of
38 culturally and linguistically appropriate health services to
39 traditionally underserved communities;

1 (xiv) (~~Pediatricians~~) One pediatrician located east of the
2 crest of the Cascade mountains; (~~and~~)

3 (xv) (~~Child~~) One child psychiatrist(~~s~~);

4 (xvi) One representative of an organization representing the
5 interests of individuals with developmental disabilities;

6 (xvii) Two youth representatives who have received behavioral
7 health services;

8 (xviii) One representative of a private insurance organization;
9 and

10 (xix) One representative from the statewide family youth system
11 partner roundtable established in the *T.R. v. Strange and McDermott,*
12 formerly the *T.R. v. Dreyfus and Porter,* settlement agreement.

13 (e) The governor shall request participation by a representative
14 of tribal governments.

15 (f) The superintendent of public instruction shall appoint one
16 representative from the office of the superintendent of public
17 instruction.

18 (g) The insurance commissioner shall appoint one representative
19 from the office of the insurance commissioner.

20 (h) The work group shall choose its cochairs, one from among its
21 legislative members and one from among the executive branch members.
22 The representative from the health care authority shall convene at
23 least two, but not more than four, meetings of the work group each
24 year.

25 (i) The cochairs may invite additional members of the house of
26 representatives and the senate to participate in work group
27 activities, including as leaders of advisory groups to the work
28 group. These legislators are not required to be formally appointed
29 members of the work group in order to participate in or lead advisory
30 groups.

31 (3) The work group shall:

32 (a) Monitor the implementation of enacted legislation, programs,
33 and policies related to (~~children's mental~~) children and youth
34 behavioral health, including provider payment for (~~depression~~
35 ~~screenings for youth and new mothers,~~) mood, anxiety, and substance
36 use disorder prevention, screening, diagnosis, and treatment for
37 children and young mothers; consultation services for child care
38 providers caring for children with symptoms of trauma(~~r~~); home
39 visiting services(~~r~~); and streamlining agency rules for providers
40 of behavioral health services;

1 (b) Consider system strategies to improve coordination and remove
2 barriers between the early learning, K-12 education, and health care
3 systems; ((and))

4 (c) Identify opportunities to remove barriers to treatment and
5 strengthen ((mental)) behavioral health service delivery for children
6 and youth;

7 (d) Determine the strategies and resources needed to:

8 (i) Improve inpatient and outpatient access to behavioral health
9 services;

10 (ii) Support the unique needs of:

11 (A) Youth ages eighteen to twenty-five; and

12 (B) Young children prenatally through age five, including
13 promoting health and social and emotional development in the context
14 of children's family, community, and culture; and

15 (iii) Develop and sustain system improvements to support the
16 behavioral health needs of children and youth; and

17 (e) Consider issues and recommendations put forward by the
18 statewide family youth system partner roundtable established in the
19 T.R. v. Strange and McDermott, formerly the T.R. v. Dreyfus and
20 Porter, settlement agreement.

21 (4) At the direction of the cochairs, the work group may convene
22 advisory groups to evaluate specific issues and report related
23 findings and recommendations to the full work group.

24 (5) ~~((a))~~ The work group shall convene an advisory group ~~((to~~
25 ~~develop a funding model for:~~

26 ~~(i) The partnership access line activities described in RCW~~
27 ~~71.24.061, including the partnership access line for moms and kids~~
28 ~~and community referral facilitation;~~

29 ~~(ii) Delivering partnership access line services to educational~~
30 ~~service districts for the training and support of school staff~~
31 ~~managing children with challenging behaviors; and~~

32 ~~(iii) Expanding partnership access line consultation services to~~
33 ~~include consultation for health care professionals serving adults.~~

34 ~~(b) The work group cochairs shall invite representatives from the~~
35 ~~following organizations and interests to participate as advisory~~
36 ~~group members under this subsection:~~

37 ~~(i) Private insurance carriers;~~

38 ~~(ii) Medicaid managed care plans;~~

39 ~~(iii) Self-insured organizations;~~

40 ~~(iv) Seattle children's hospital;~~

1 ~~(v) The partnership access line;~~
2 ~~(vi) The office of the insurance commissioner;~~
3 ~~(vii) The University of Washington school of medicine; and~~
4 ~~(viii) Other organizations and individuals, as determined by the~~
5 ~~cochairs.~~

6 ~~(c) The funding model must build upon previous funding model~~
7 ~~efforts by the health care authority, including work completed~~
8 ~~pursuant to chapter 288, Laws of 2018. The funding model must:~~

9 ~~(i) Determine the annual cost of operating the partnership access~~
10 ~~line and its various components and collect a proportional share of~~
11 ~~program cost from each health insurance carrier; and~~

12 ~~(ii) Differentiate between partnership access line activities~~
13 ~~eligible for medicaid funding and activities that are nonmedicaid~~
14 ~~eligible.~~

15 ~~(d) By December 1, 2019, the advisory group formed under this~~
16 ~~subsection must deliver the funding model and any associated~~
17 ~~recommendations to the work group.) focused on school-based~~
18 ~~behavioral health and suicide prevention. The advisory group shall~~
19 ~~advise the full work group on creating and maintaining a~~
20 ~~comprehensive, integrated, tiered system of support and care within~~
21 ~~and between kindergarten through twelfth grade school systems and~~
22 ~~behavioral health care systems that can rapidly identify students in~~
23 ~~need of care and effectively link these students to appropriate~~
24 ~~services, provide age-appropriate education on behavioral health, and~~
25 ~~improve both education and behavioral health outcomes for students.~~
26 ~~The work group cochairs may invite nonwork group members to~~
27 ~~participate as advisory group members.~~

28 (6) (a) Staff support for the work group, including administration
29 of work group meetings and preparation of ((the updated)) full work
30 group recommendations and reports required under ((subsection (8)
31 ef)) this section, must be provided by the health care authority.

32 (b) Additional staff support for legislative members of the work
33 group may be provided by senate committee services and the house of
34 representatives office of program research.

35 (c) The office of the superintendent of public instruction must
36 provide staff support to the school-based behavioral health and
37 suicide prevention advisory group, including administration of
38 advisory group meetings and the preparation and delivery of advisory
39 group recommendations to the full work group.

1 (7) Legislative members of the work group are reimbursed for
2 travel expenses in accordance with RCW 44.04.120. Nonlegislative
3 members are not entitled to be reimbursed for travel expenses if they
4 are elected officials or are participating on behalf of an employer,
5 governmental entity, or other organization. Any reimbursement for
6 other nonlegislative members is subject to chapter 43.03 RCW.
7 Advisory group members who are not members of the work group are not
8 entitled to reimbursement.

9 (8) The work group shall update the findings and recommendations
10 reported to the legislature by the children's mental health work
11 group in December 2016 pursuant to chapter 96, Laws of 2016. The work
12 group must submit the updated report to the governor and the
13 appropriate committees of the legislature by December 1, 2020.
14 Beginning December 1, 2021, and every two years thereafter, the work
15 group shall provide recommendations in alignment with subsection (3)
16 of this section to the governor and the legislature.

17 (~~(9) This section expires December 30, 2020.~~)

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