

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1535

Introduced by Assembly Member Bass

February 22, 2005

An act to add Section 4637.6 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to developmental services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1535, as introduced, Bass. Developmental services.

Existing law, the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act, requires the State Department of Developmental Services to allocate funds to private nonprofit regional centers for the provision of community services and support for persons with developmental disabilities and their families, and sets forth the duties of the regional centers, including, but not limited to, development of individual program plans and the monitoring of services.

This bill would require the department to generate annual reports that set forth expenditures for the purchase of services and denials of eligibility for the prior fiscal year for each regional center aggregated by race and ethnicity of the consumers, would require the department to post the information on its Web site, and would require the regional center to submit related information.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:

1 (a) Reports generated by the Department of Developmental
2 Services indicate that the average per-capita expenditures for
3 services for regional center clients from racial and ethnic groups,
4 other than White, are less than the average per-capita
5 expenditures for regional center clients that are designated as
6 White, and that some of the discrepancies appear to be
7 substantial.

8 (b) Local regional centers, and the communities they serve, are
9 in the best position to review, monitor and address questions
10 about equal access to services, provided they have timely access
11 to reports comparing expenditures for services by race and
12 ethnicity.

13 (c) Data available to the department, including data generated
14 by regional centers, would enable the department to generate
15 reports to assist regional centers and their communities
16 understand and address any questions of equal access to services.

17 SEC. 2. Section 4637.6 is added to the Welfare and
18 Institutions Code, to read:

19 4637.6. (a) By August 30th of each year, the department shall
20 generate a report for the prior fiscal year that sets out
21 expenditures for the purchase of services for each regional center,
22 by race and ethnicity, as set forth in subdivision (b).

23 (b) Each regional center shall submit to the department, the
24 cost for purchases of service for each of the following categories:

25 (1) Out of home expenses.

26 (2) Day programs.

27 (3) Transportation.

28 (4) Medical care.

29 (5) In-home respite.

30 (6) Out-of-home respite.

31 (7) Other nonmedical services.

32 (8) Support services.

33 (9) Total purchase of service which shall sum the cost
34 categories in paragraphs (1) to (8), inclusive.

35 (c) The race and ethnic categories shall include at least Asian,
36 Black/African American, Filipino, Latino/Hispanic, Native
37 American, other, Polynesian, unknown, and White.

38 (d) The report shall include an analysis of the purchases of
39 service cost by race and ethnicity, for each regional center, and

- 1 shall control for all of the following independent variables,
2 contained in the Client Development Evaluation Report (CDER):
3 (1) Client chronological age.
4 (2) Residence type.
5 (3) Client's primary programming/characteristic.
6 (4) Level of mental retardation.
7 (5) Levels of adaptive and maladaptive behaviors.
8 (6) Ethnicity.
9 (7) Client's regional center.
10 (e) The department shall, by August 30th, of each year,
11 generate reports setting forth the total number of notices of
12 proposed action, by each regional center for the prior fiscal year,
13 that terminate continuing eligibility to recipients, or that deny
14 initial eligibility to applicants, for regional center services
15 aggregated as follows:
16 (1) For each race/ethnic category.
17 (2) For individuals who do not speak English as their primary
18 language.
19 (3) For notices that are not in English.
20 (f) Each regional center shall promptly provide the data
21 requested by the department to enable the department to generate
22 the annual reports.
23 (g) The department shall post the annual reports on its Web
24 site on completion and shall make the report available upon
25 request. Each regional center that has a Web site shall include a
26 link to the department's reports.

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