

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 28, 2013

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 11, 2013

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 1, 2013

SENATE BILL

No. 367

Introduced by Senator Block

February 20, 2013

An act to ~~add Section 4629.6 to~~ *amend Section 4622 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to developmental services.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 367, as amended, Block. Developmental services: regional centers: cultural and linguistic competency.

Under existing law, the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act, the State Department of Developmental Services is ~~authorized~~ *required* to contract with regional centers to provide support and services to individuals with developmental disabilities. Existing law requires the governing board of the regional center to satisfy specified requirements, including annually reviewing the performance of the director of the regional center, *and providing necessary training and support to board members.*

~~This bill would require each regional center's governing board, as a condition of its contract, to require the regional center's executive director, or his or her designee, to provide an annual report on the regional center's efforts to address issues of inequity in access to services that includes specified information, including a description of the utilization of various regional center services, broken down annually by ethnic and other demographic data. The bill would require that the~~

~~governing board require the regional center to post information related to the annual report on its Internet Web site, when possible.~~

This bill would require that this training and support include issues relating to linguistic and cultural competency, and would require each regional center to post on its Internet Web site information regarding the training and support provided. The bill would require the performance review of the director to include an evaluation of the director's performance in providing regional center services that are linguistically and culturally appropriate.

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

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

- 1 *SECTION 1. Section 4622 of the Welfare and Institutions Code*
 2 *is amended to read:*
 3 4622. The state shall contract only with agencies, the governing
 4 boards of which conform to all of the following criteria:
 5 (a) The governing board shall be composed of individuals with
 6 demonstrated interest in, or knowledge of, developmental
 7 disabilities.
 8 (b) The membership of the governing board shall include
 9 persons with legal, management, public relations, and
 10 developmental disability program skills.
 11 (c) The membership of the governing board shall include
 12 representatives of the various categories of disability to be served
 13 by the regional center.
 14 (d) The governing board shall reflect the geographic and ethnic
 15 characteristics of the area to be served by the regional center.
 16 (e) A minimum of 50 percent of the members of the governing
 17 board shall be persons with developmental disabilities or their
 18 parents or legal guardians. No less than 25 percent of the members
 19 of the governing board shall be persons with developmental
 20 disabilities.
 21 (f) Members of the governing board shall not be permitted to
 22 serve more than seven years within each eight-year period.
 23 (g) (1) The regional center shall provide necessary training
 24 and support to these board members to facilitate their understanding
 25 and participation, *including issues relating to linguistic and cultural*
 26 *competency.* ~~As~~

1 (2) As part of its monitoring responsibility, the department shall
2 review and approve the method by which training and support are
3 provided to board members to ensure maximum understanding
4 and participation by board members.

5 (3) *Each regional center shall post on its Internet Web site*
6 *information regarding the training and support provided to board*
7 *members.*

8 (h) The governing board may appoint a consumers' advisory
9 committee composed of persons with developmental disabilities
10 representing the various categories of disability served by the
11 regional center.

12 (i) The governing board shall appoint an advisory committee
13 composed of a wide variety of persons representing the various
14 categories of providers from which the regional center purchases
15 client services. The advisory committee shall provide advice,
16 guidance, recommendations, and technical assistance to the
17 regional center board in order to assist the regional center in
18 carrying out its mandated functions. The advisory committee shall
19 designate one of its members to serve as a member of the regional
20 center board.

21 (j) The governing board shall annually review the performance
22 of the director of the regional center. *This performance review*
23 *shall include an evaluation of the director's performance in*
24 *providing regional center services that are linguistically and*
25 *culturally appropriate.*

26 (k) No member of the board who is an employee or member of
27 the governing board of a provider from which the regional center
28 purchases client services shall do any of the following:

29 (1) Serve as an officer of the board.

30 (2) Vote on any fiscal matter affecting the purchase of services
31 from any regional center provider.

32 (3) Vote on any issue other than as described in paragraph (2),
33 in which the member has a financial interest, as defined in Section
34 87103 of the Government Code, and determined by the regional
35 center board. The member shall provide a list of his or her financial
36 interests, as defined in Section 87103, to the regional center board.

37 Nothing in this section shall prevent the appointment to a
38 regional center governing board of a person who meets the criteria
39 for more than one of the categories listed above.

40 ~~This section shall become operative on July 1, 1999.~~

1 SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation
2 that would provide that the State Department of Developmental
3 Services require regional centers to address issues of cultural and
4 linguistic competency.
5 SEC. 2. Section 4629.6 is added to the Welfare and Institutions
6 Code, to read:
7 4629.6. As a condition of its contract, each regional center's
8 governing board shall do the following:
9 (a) Require the regional center's executive director, or his or
10 her designee, to provide an annual report on the regional center's
11 efforts to address issues of inequity in access to services, including,
12 but not limited to, the following:
13 (1) A description of the utilization of various regional center
14 services, broken down annually by ethnic and other demographic
15 data.
16 (2) Identification of barriers to services.
17 (3) A description of specific steps toward progress made in
18 identifying and providing services to underserved populations
19 within the prior year, including identifying innovative practices
20 by the regional center or its contracted community-based
21 organizations.
22 (4) A description of efforts made to build partnerships between
23 community-based providers of other services for regional center
24 consumers who are in underserved communities.
25 (b) Require the regional center to post information related to
26 the annual report on its Internet Web site, when possible.