
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5328 (as amended by House "A")*

AN ACT CONCERNING ADVISORY AND PLANNING COUNCILS FOR STATE DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES REGIONS, A CHANGE IN TERMINOLOGY AND THE AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER ADVISORY COUNCIL.

SUMMARY:

This bill makes several changes to the Council on Developmental Services, the Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council, and the advisory and planning councils for state developmental services regions.

The bill increases, from 13 to 15, the membership of the Council on Developmental Services. One of the additional members, appointed by the House majority leader, must be a person with autism spectrum disorder who is receiving, or has received, services from the Department of Developmental Services' Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services. The other new member is appointed by the Senate majority leader. It expands those eligible to serve in certain positions on the council to include other relatives, not just parents or guardians, of individuals with an intellectual disability. The bill also changes how often the council must meet from every other month to six times per year.

The bill increases, from 23 to 24, the membership of the Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council. The additional member must be a physician who treats or diagnoses persons with autism spectrum disorder appointed by the governor.

The bill allows a member of an advisory and planning council to serve beyond the current limit of two consecutive three-year terms if waiting for the appointment of a successor.

This bill also updates terminology.

*House Amendment "A" changes who appoints the two additional members of the Council on Developmental Services from the governor to the House and Senate majority leaders. In addition, it expands the Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council by one member instead of two and specifies that the additional member is appointed by the governor.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2014

BACKGROUND

Advisory and Planning Councils

The developmental services commissioner must appoint an advisory and planning council for each developmental services region. The council must consult and advise the regional director on the needs of persons with intellectual disability in the region, the annual plan and regional budget, and other matters deemed appropriate.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 26 Nay 0 (03/21/2014)