

CHAPTER 123

HUMAN SERVICES - SOCIAL SERVICES

SENATE BILL 08-005

BY SENATOR(S) Williams, Boyd, Keller, Bacon, Gordon, Groff, Isgar, Johnson, Kester, Mitchell S., Morse, Romer, Shaffer, Spence, Tapia, Taylor, Tochtrop, Tupa, and Windels;
also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Pommer, Soper, Borodkin, Buescher, Carroll M., Carroll T., Ferrandino, Fischer, Frangas, Gardner B., Gardner C., Green, Hodge, Kefalas, Kerr A., Kerr J., Levy, Liston, Madden, Massey, McGihon, Merrifield, Middleton, Peniston, Primavera, Rice, Roberts, Romanoff, Solano, Stafford, Stephens, Summers, and Todd.

AN ACT

CONCERNING AN OUTCOME-BASED SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SYSTEM FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, INCLUDING DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. Legislative declaration. (1) The general assembly hereby finds and declares that:

(a) The state of Colorado believes that every person, regardless of disability, should have the opportunity for gainful employment;

(b) Longitudinal studies have shown that when persons with developmental disabilities move to integrated or supported employment, persons with developmental disabilities and taxpayers both benefit;

(c) Integrated employment in Colorado for persons with developmental disabilities declined substantially between 1997 and 2003;

(d) Recent studies suggest that outcome-based funding systems for integrated employment services may yield a more efficient use of tax dollars and result in improved integrated employment outcomes for persons with developmental disabilities;

(e) Analysis of other states' experiences indicate that successful, outcome-based, supported employment systems require strong collaboration between the service

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

vendors and the state in the development of rates leading to successful employment outcomes.

(2) Therefore, it is the intent of the general assembly to create a pilot program to implement an outcome-based employment model for persons with developmental disabilities and to recommend a payment system for supported employment services for persons with developmental disabilities in Colorado that can be achieved and maintained within existing appropriations.

SECTION 2. Article 10.5 of title 27, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW PART to read:

PART 8
OUTCOME-BASED SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SYSTEM
FOR INTEGRATED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, INCLUDING
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

27-10.5-801. Pilot program - creation - goals - implementation - reporting.

(1) (a) THERE IS HEREBY CREATED A PILOT PROGRAM IN THE DIVISION TO IMPLEMENT AN OUTCOME-BASED EMPLOYMENT MODEL FOR PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND RECOMMEND A PAYMENT SYSTEM FOR SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES IN COLORADO FOR PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

(b) THE GOAL OF THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL BE TO INCREASE THE EFFICIENCY OF STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES BY CONNECTING FUNDING FOR EMPLOYMENT SERVICES TO EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO INCREASED EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR AND LONG-TERM SUCCESS OF INTEGRATED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

(c) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP THE PILOT PROGRAM IN CONSULTATION WITH THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AND ENTITIES:

(I) COMMUNITY CENTERED BOARDS;

(II) PROVIDERS OF SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES, OTHER THAN COMMUNITY CENTERED BOARDS;

(III) PERSONS CURRENTLY RECEIVING SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES;

(IV) THE DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION;

(V) THE DIVISION FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES; AND

(VI) OTHER EXPERTS IN THE FIELD AS IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OR THE PARTICIPANTS IN THIS PARAGRAPH (c).

(d) ON OR BEFORE MARCH 30, 2009, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL IMPLEMENT THE

PILOT PROGRAM. PRIOR TO IMPLEMENTING THE PILOT PROGRAM, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE AND TO THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE ON THE SPECIFIC DETAILS OF THE PILOT PROGRAM AND HOW RESOURCES OF THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE DIRECTED TO IMPLEMENT THE PILOT PROGRAM. THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL END ON OR BEFORE MARCH 30, 2011.

(e) ON OR BEFORE APRIL 30, 2011, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT EVALUATING THE PILOT PROGRAM TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE AND TO THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, THE GOVERNOR, AND THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR. THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE ANY COSTS OR SAVINGS THAT WERE OR ARE PROJECTED TO BE REALIZED AS A RESULT OF IMPLEMENTING THE PILOT PROGRAM OR THE PROPOSED PAYMENT SYSTEM FOR SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES. THE REPORT SHALL ALSO INCLUDE A SUMMARY OF THE NUMBER OF JOBS OBTAINED FOR PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, AND THE NUMBER OF JOBS RETAINED BY THOSE INDIVIDUALS AT THREE MONTHS, SIX MONTHS, AND NINE MONTHS FOLLOWING THE INITIAL PLACEMENT.

(2) THE DEPARTMENT IS AUTHORIZED TO IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PILOT PROGRAM WITHIN AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS.

(3) AS USED IN THIS PART 8, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES, "DIVISION" MEANS THE DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

SECTION 3. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: April 10, 2008