
HOUSE BILL 1636

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Representatives MacEwen and Griffey

Read first time 01/26/15. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to disability employment reporting by state
2 agencies; adding a new section to chapter 43.41 RCW; and creating new
3 sections.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** This act may be known and cited as the
6 state disability employment parity act.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The legislature finds that seven percent
8 of the state's population consists of persons with disabilities, that
9 persons with disabilities suffer significantly higher rates of
10 unemployment and underemployment than in the general population, and
11 that representation of disabled persons in the state workforce has
12 declined in recent years. The legislature further finds that there is
13 no policy similar to Schedule A in the federal civil service system
14 for priority hiring of persons with disabilities. The legislature
15 further finds that state government human resource managers do not
16 coordinate with the department of social and health services,
17 division of vocational rehabilitation or the department of services
18 for the blind regarding opportunities to employ persons with
19 disabilities. Therefore, the legislature intends to increase the
20 hiring of persons with disabilities in the state workforce.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.41
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 (1) By January 31st of each year, state agencies employing one
4 hundred or more people must submit the report described in subsection
5 (2) of this section to the human resources director, with copies to
6 the director of the department of social and health services,
7 division of vocational rehabilitation and the governor's disability
8 employment task force.

9 (2) The report must include the following information:

10 (a) The number of employees from the previous calendar year;

11 (b) The number of employees classified as individuals with
12 disabilities;

13 (c) The number of employees that separated from the state agency
14 the previous year;

15 (d) The number of employees that were hired by the state agency
16 the previous year;

17 (e) The number of employees hired from the division of vocational
18 rehabilitation services and from the department of the services for
19 the blind the previous year;

20 (f) The number of planned hires for the current year; and

21 (g) Opportunities for internships for the division of vocational
22 rehabilitation and the department of the services for the blind
23 client placement leading to an entry-level position placement upon
24 successful completion for the current year.

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