
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6125

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Kauffman, Frame, Wellman, Trudeau, J. Wilson, Conway, Kuderer, Lovick, Nguyen, Nobles, Saldaña, Valdez, Wagoner, and C. Wilson)

READ FIRST TIME 02/05/24.

1 AN ACT Relating to preserving records and artifacts regarding the
2 historical treatment of people with intellectual and developmental
3 disabilities in Washington state; creating new sections; and
4 providing an expiration date.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that in 2023,
7 numerous records and artifacts were discovered at Lakeland Village, a
8 state-operated facility originally established in 1916 to serve
9 individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities. The
10 collection of items discovered includes an unknown number of medical
11 records, letters, images, films, and historical artifacts, including
12 letters from family members, artifacts that capture important events,
13 such as props from theater plays, and images of daily life. The
14 legislature finds that preserving historical records and artifacts is
15 crucial to understanding our past treatment of individuals with
16 intellectual and developmental disabilities and to shaping our
17 future. Some of the records and artifacts highlight a darker story of
18 medical sterilization and medical restraint.

19 Therefore, the legislature finds and declares that the Washington
20 state archives and the department of social and health services shall
21 work with the University of Washington institute on human development

1 and disability, to the extent allowable under federal and state
2 privacy law, to create a preservation plan that details how the
3 records and artifacts will be catalogued and preserved for the
4 purpose of sharing this important history with all Washingtonians and
5 that moving forward the state intends to work directly with those
6 with lived experience to shape future policies and enhance service
7 delivery with the goal of better outcomes for those individuals with
8 intellectual and developmental disabilities.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The division of archives and records
10 management, working with the University of Washington institute on
11 human development and disability, the department of social and health
12 services, and the department of archaeology and historic
13 preservation, shall create a preservation plan to organize,
14 catalogue, and store the historical documents and artifacts
15 identified at Lakeland Village, a state-operated facility. Historical
16 documents and artifacts may include but are not limited to medical
17 records, letters, images, films, and artifacts of past residents with
18 intellectual or developmental disabilities at Lakeland Village.

19 (2) The preservation plan shall:

20 (a) Identify all the records and artifacts that are available and
21 at risk of destruction;

22 (b) Assess the condition of the records and artifacts and level
23 of preservation required, including but not limited to the age of the
24 record, the material used, and environmental conditions in which the
25 items have been stored;

26 (c) Outline the steps that will be taken to preserve the records
27 and artifacts. This includes how the records will be stored, where
28 they will be stored, how they will be handled and transported, and
29 how they will be restored if they are in danger of falling into
30 disrepair, dysfunction, or destruction. The plan must also include
31 how the records will be catalogued, digitized, and transferred to
32 archival microfilm for long-term access; and

33 (d) Include a timeline for the preservation work and an overall
34 budget for the work. The plan must be reported to the appropriate
35 committees of the legislature by September 1, 2025.

36 (3) The plan described in this section must also include future
37 plans for public access for historical and educational purposes.

38 (4) The division of archives and records management and the
39 department of social and health services shall work together in

1 storing and retaining the records described in this act, from
2 Lakeland Village. No records shall be destroyed until the
3 preservation plan is completed and the work is funded during fiscal
4 year 2026.

5 (5) Indirect costs to the University of Washington for this
6 project are limited to 15 percent.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If specific funding for the purposes of
8 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not
9 provided by June 30, 2024, in the omnibus appropriations act, this
10 act is null and void.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act expires June 30, 2026.

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