

CHAPTER 83

[Engrossed Senate Bill No. 2069]
YOUTH SERVICE CORPS ACT OF 1977

AN ACT Relating to Washington state's youth service corps and the program for youth services; providing an expiration date; and adding a new chapter to Title 50 RCW.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. The legislature finds and declares that:

(1) A high percentage of the young men and women of the state are left idle by unemployment and denied the opportunities for career exploration and development that should accompany entry into the labor force.

(2) The talent and energy of Washington's young people are a significant resource for the enhancement of human and community services and the conservation and development of natural resources in our state of Washington.

(3) Existing programs do not adequately meet the needs of such young people for meaningful work and self-development.

(4) The program for youth service of the department of employment security offers an alternative to unemployment to its young people which challenges their abilities and commitment while extending the services of local governmental and private agencies and organizations in meeting social and environmental needs.

Now, therefore, the legislature finds it necessary and in the public interest to hereby establish the program for youth service as a permanent activity of the department of employment security and to hereby provide for its operation through this youth service corps act of 1977.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. (1) There is hereby created and established the youth service corps within the employment security department which shall include the program for youth service. The commissioner shall assign thereto such supervisory and clerical personnel as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

(2) The commissioner of the employment security department is hereby authorized to establish the program for youth service in which the services of full time enrollees from fourteen to twenty-four years of age, inclusive, will be mobilized to serve the needs of citizens and to resolve environmental problems through contracts with state and local governmental units and private nonprofit agencies. Such contracts shall include a component of regular performance evaluation leading to a work experience credential for the enrollee.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. The commissioner is authorized to select and enroll in the program for youth service, any person who is over fourteen years of age or who has not yet reached his or her twenty-fifth birthday, who is a resident of the state of Washington, and who is not for medical, legal, or psychological reasons incapable of a full year of service. The commissioner may prescribe such additional standards and procedures for selection of enrollees as may be necessary and in conformance with the provisions of this chapter.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. Placements in the program for youth service shall include those assignments which provide for dealing with social and environmental problems, and conservation and development of our natural resources.

The commissioner is authorized to establish standards for the development of placements for program for youth service enrollees with state and local units of government and private nonprofit agencies and organizations, and to assign enrollees to such placements in accordance with those standards.

A subsistence living allowance and comprehensive medical insurance shall be paid by the commissioner in accordance with the standards and limitations of the funding appropriation.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. A "program for youth service enrollee" is defined as a person who has completed enrollment forms and entered into a program for youth service contract as approved by the director of the program for youth service and who has entered service and is receiving a subsistence living allowance from the employment security department. Prior to placement of the program for youth service enrollee, the commissioner shall secure a written agreement from the state or local government unit, or private nonprofit agency and the enrollee which specifies in detail the purpose, objectives, and activities to be performed by the enrollee. It shall include assurances that the conditions of this chapter are met as well as an agreement that neither party will request nor receive compensation of any form other than the minimal living allowance, listed benefits, and actual expenses incurred by the enrollee in line with his or her assignment. All parties shall agree that they will not discriminate in the providing of any of its services on the basis of race, creed, ethnic origin, sex, age, or political affiliation.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. If the employment security department finds that there is an opportunity for the placement of youth in a training program that will, in the opinion of the director, assist in the development of skills and talents as set forth in section 1 of this act, then the director is hereby authorized to enter into any contract with any employer in the state that offers such training program or opportunities. Contracts entered into with employers other than local governmental and private nonprofit agencies shall not be exempted from the minimum wage laws of this state, but the director shall be empowered to reimburse the employer an amount not to exceed the amount that would have been paid under section 5 of this act. The director shall only be authorized to make said payments for a maximum period of one year.

The director shall report back to the legislature by January 15, 1978, the number of contracts entered into and the number of youth employed under this section and under section 5 of this act.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. Program for youth service enrollees shall be eligible for the benefits under Title 51 RCW, as now or hereafter amended, relating to industrial insurance.

The employment security department shall be deemed the employer and pay all premiums, including the worker's share. The employment security department will give notice of coverage under industrial insurance of all of its program for youth service enrollees to the director of the department of labor and industries prior to

the occurrence of the injury or contraction of an occupational disease by any program for youth service enrollees.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. The assignment of program for youth service enrollees shall not result in the displacement of currently employed workers, including partial displacement such as a reduction in hours of non-overtime work, wages, or other employment benefits.

State and local governments and private nonprofit agencies that participate in the program may not terminate, lay off, or reduce the working hours of any employee for the purpose of utilizing an enrollee with funds available under this chapter.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. The provisions of chapter 49.46 RCW, the state Minimum Wage Act, shall not apply to any program for youth service enrollee serving under a youth service contract approved pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. In addition to any other power, duty, or function prescribed by law or regulation, the employment security department, through the youth service corps, shall be authorized to accept federal funds and grants and implement federal programs relating to youth services or employment programs, and is further authorized to enter into agreements respecting such funds or grants.

If any part of this chapter shall be found to be in conflict with federal requirements which are a prescribed condition to the allocation of federal funds to the state, such conflicting part of this chapter is hereby declared to be inoperative solely to the extent of such conflict, and such finding or determination shall not affect the operation of the remainder of this chapter; the rules and regulations under this chapter shall meet federal requirements which are a necessary condition to the receipt of federal funds by the state.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. The provisions of this chapter shall expire on December 31, 1981.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 12. Sections 1 through 11 of this act shall constitute a new chapter in Title 50 RCW.

Passed the Senate May 18, 1977.

Passed the House May 17, 1977.

Approved by the Governor May 26, 1977.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 26, 1977.

CHAPTER 84

[Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 2129]

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES—PROMULGATION—STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND IMPLEMENTATION

AN ACT Relating to state government; and adding a new section to chapter 34.04 RCW.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. There is added to chapter 34.04 RCW a new section to read as follows: