



ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Fiftieth Legislature, Second Regular Session

FACT SHEET FOR H.B. 2655

developmental disability services; providers; monitoring

Purpose

Requires the Department of Economic Security (DES) to monitor developmental disability residential service providers that meet certain requirements once, rather than at least twice, per year.

Background

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) within DES provides services to individuals diagnosed with cognitive disability, cerebral palsy, autism or epilepsy that manifests before age 18 and is likely to continue indefinitely, and who also have substantial limitations in three or more life functions. DDD support service coordinators in local offices throughout the state determine eligibility for services, develop and implement individual plans for services, and monitor outcomes. DDD provides most services through contracts with private individual and agency service providers.

Statute outlines requirements for residential care service contracts. Specifically, contracts must provide for mandatory DES inspection of facilities other than group homes every two years and investigation of complaints within 10 working days. In instances that pose a danger to the client, DES must conduct an investigation immediately. The provider must file periodic reports regarding the facility operation, and must allow inspection of the facility, books and records by DES at any time. Parents, guardians and members of recognized and ongoing advocacy groups may inspect the facility at reasonable times. Finally, contracts must provide for mandatory monitoring by DES for health, safety, contractual and programmatic standards at least every six months unless DES has granted deemed status, in which case monitoring is conducted once per year. However, if DES has reasonable cause to believe the provider is not meeting requirements, DES may enter the premises at any reasonable time. *Deemed status* means that DES has determined the provider has been accredited by a nationally recognized agency whose accreditation standards meet those of DES for the program or service offered by the provider to DES consumers.

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Reduces the monitoring, from twice to once per year, of a DDD residential service provider that received a score of at least 95 percent on the most recent monitoring visit.

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2. Makes technical and conforming changes.
3. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

House Action

HHS	1/25/12	DP	8-0-0-1
3 rd Read	3/6/12		57-0-3-0-0

Prepared by Senate Research

March 9, 2012

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