

**Senate File 156 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 156

BY BRASE, BOLKCOM, RAGAN,  
DOTZLER, DVORSKY, MATHIS,  
ALLEN, SODDERS, QUIRMBACH,  
HART, SCHOENJAHN, JOCHUM,  
GRONSTAL, COURTNEY,  
DEARDEN, HORN, TAYLOR,  
WILHELM, PETERSEN,  
BISIGNANO, KINNEY, HOGG,  
McCOY, and SENG

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to an interagency review to identify and  
2 address barriers to community living for elders and  
3 individuals with disabilities.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. INTERAGENCY REVIEW — IDENTIFICATION AND  
2 ADDRESSING OF BARRIERS TO COMMUNITY LIVING FOR ELDERS AND  
3 INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.

4 1. The heads of each of the following state agencies and  
5 entities shall undertake steps to identify and address barriers  
6 to community living for individuals with disabilities or  
7 long-term illnesses in Iowa:

- 8 a. Board of regents.
- 9 b. Department for the blind.
- 10 c. Iowa civil rights commission.
- 11 d. Department of corrections.
- 12 e. Economic development authority.
- 13 f. Department of education.
- 14 g. Department on aging.
- 15 h. Department of administrative services.
- 16 i. Department of human rights.
- 17 j. Department of human services.
- 18 k. Department of inspections and appeals.
- 19 l. Department of management.
- 20 m. Department of public health.
- 21 n. Department of public safety.
- 22 o. Department of transportation.
- 23 p. Department of veterans affairs.
- 24 q. Department of workforce development.
- 25 r. Iowa finance authority.
- 26 s. Iowa veterans home.

27 2. Each head of a state agency or entity listed in  
28 subsection 1 shall designate a representative to serve as a  
29 member of an interagency workgroup which shall be established  
30 to evaluate policies, programs, statutes, and regulations of  
31 their respective agencies to determine whether any of the  
32 policies, programs, statutes, or regulations should be revised  
33 or modified to improve the availability of community-based  
34 services for elders and individuals with disabilities.  
35 The workgroup shall seek input from consumers, advocacy

1 organizations, providers, and relevant agency representatives  
2 while conducting the review. The workgroup shall develop a  
3 collaborative plan to address the barriers identified.

4 3. Each head of a state agency or entity listed in  
5 subsection 1 shall do all of the following:

6 a. Draw upon existing resources available to the agency  
7 or entity to identify and prioritize the existing barriers to  
8 community living for elders and individuals with disabilities  
9 in Iowa.

10 b. Engage in planning activities to ensure that the  
11 resources of each state agency or entity are utilized in the  
12 most efficient and effective manner to support the goals of the  
13 federal Americans with Disabilities Act.

14 c. Identify and utilize federal funding opportunities for  
15 the support of activities related to the Olmstead decision  
16 within the state.

17 4. As part of the interagency review, the Olmstead consumer  
18 task force, the department on aging, and the department of  
19 human services, specifically, shall make recommendations on  
20 workable strategies for addressing barriers to community  
21 integration for elders and individuals with disabilities and  
22 for developing a well-coordinated and seamless service delivery  
23 system to fully comply with the Olmstead decision. The basis  
24 of the recommendations shall be to provide that state agencies,  
25 counties, and localities can work together in a more cohesive  
26 manner to deliver needed services, including the identification  
27 of specific state law, administrative rule, or policy changes  
28 that could eliminate existing barriers, and recommended  
29 strategies for ongoing communication and coordination of  
30 efforts between agencies.

31 5. The interagency workgroup shall develop an initial  
32 plan which shall be submitted to the governor and the general  
33 assembly by November 15, 2015.

34

EXPLANATION

35 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with

1           the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

2       This bill creates an interagency workgroup to identify  
3 and address barriers to community living for elders and  
4 individuals with disabilities. The bill directs heads of the  
5 state agencies and entities listed in the bill to undertake  
6 steps to identify and address such barriers. Each agency head  
7 is to designate a representative as part of the interagency  
8 workgroup to evaluate policies, programs, statutes, and  
9 regulations of their respective agency to determine whether any  
10 policies, programs, statutes, or regulations should be revised  
11 or modified to improve the availability of community-based  
12 services for elders and individuals with disabilities. The  
13 workgroup is directed to seek input from consumers, advocacy  
14 organizations, providers, and relevant agency representatives  
15 while conducting the review. The workgroup must develop a  
16 collaborative plan to address the barriers identified. Each  
17 agency head is directed to draw upon existing resources to  
18 identify and prioritize the existing barriers; engage in  
19 planning activities to ensure that the resources of each state  
20 agency are utilized in the most efficient and effective manner  
21 to support the goals of the federal Americans with Disabilities  
22 Act; and identify and utilize federal funding opportunities  
23 for the support of activities related to the Olmstead decision  
24 within the state. As part of the interagency review, the  
25 Olmstead consumer task force, the department on aging, and  
26 the department of human services, specifically, are directed  
27 to make recommendations on workable strategies for addressing  
28 barriers to community integration for elders and individuals  
29 with disabilities and for developing a well-coordinated  
30 and seamless service delivery system to fully comply with  
31 the Olmstead decision. The initial plan of the interagency  
32 workgroup shall be developed and submitted to the governor and  
33 the general assembly by November 15, 2015.