

**SENATE BILL 5347**

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**State of Washington**

**52nd Legislature**

**1991 Regular Session**

**By** Senators West, Wojahn, L. Smith, Stratton, Johnson, Niemi, Roach, Vognild, Anderson, Amondson and Erwin.

Read first time January 29, 1991. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishment of regional health promotion and  
2 disease prevention programs; amending RCW 43.59.030; adding new  
3 sections to chapter 43.70 RCW; creating a new section; and making an  
4 appropriation.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

7 (1) The current system of health care and public health has been  
8 remarkably successful in identifying and reducing or eradicating many  
9 contagious or infectious diseases that were major public health threats  
10 in years past.

11 (2) Chronic diseases account for three out of four deaths in  
12 Washington every year. Diseases such as heart disease, cancer,  
13 intentional and unintentional injuries, perinatal conditions, and other  
14 conditions can be prevented if individuals receive early detection of

1 disease and periodic screening, and modify their personal behaviors and  
2 life styles.

3 (3) State, local, and private agencies have been established to  
4 plan and deliver social and health services. Many of these services  
5 are designed to arrest, treat, or cure illnesses and injuries, not to  
6 prevent them.

7 (4) While certain state agencies have responsibility for prevention  
8 of particular illnesses or injuries, such as the Washington traffic  
9 safety commission for prevention of traffic injuries and the department  
10 of social and health services for prevention of substance abuse, no  
11 single entity in state or local government is presently charged with  
12 the authority to oversee and coordinate all public and private efforts  
13 to address the factors which will promote health and prevent illness  
14 and injury, both intentional and unintentional. Of particular concern  
15 is the need to coordinate and lead existing public and private efforts  
16 to deal with chronic disease and its causes including tobacco use,  
17 misuse of alcohol and other drugs, intentional and unintentional  
18 injuries, diet, or other personal behaviors.

19 (5) These activities are essential to the protection and promotion  
20 of public health and should be pursued by individual citizens,  
21 communities, local governments, businesses, and public and private  
22 agencies with leadership from local health departments, the department  
23 of health, and the board of health through the state health report.

24 The purpose of this act is to provide health promotion and disease  
25 and injury prevention efforts within the public health system to  
26 empower individuals, voluntary community associations, health  
27 organizations, and others by providing information and resources to  
28 protect and promote health.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    There is established within the department  
2 of health a center for health promotion and disease and injury  
3 prevention whose principal administrator shall report to the secretary.  
4 The center shall contain departmental functions that the secretary  
5 determines are most directly related to the promotion of health and the  
6 prevention of diseases and intentional and unintentional injuries,  
7 consistent with the organizational principles set forth in RCW  
8 43.70.020. The center shall collaborate with other entities within the  
9 department and other state, local, federal, and private agencies to use  
10 available information to:

11        (1) Identify the leading causes of death, disease, and injury to  
12 Washington citizens;

13        (2) Isolate the causes and risk factors for these illnesses and  
14 injuries, both intentional and unintentional;

15        (3) Identify geographic areas and population groups at risk for  
16 these illnesses and intentional and unintentional injuries;

17        (4) Identify strategies that have been demonstrated to be effective  
18 in reducing these illnesses, intentional and unintentional injuries,  
19 causes, or risk factors;

20        (5) Act as a clearinghouse and consultive resource for local health  
21 departments, other public and private groups, and voluntary community  
22 associations that wish to implement these strategies;

23        (6) Request and receive funds, gifts, grants, or appropriations  
24 from the legislature, the federal government, or private sources to  
25 pursue the department's duties under this section;

26        (7) Provide grants to local health jurisdictions for health  
27 promotion and disease and injury prevention to enable citizens and  
28 communities to adopt behaviors that have demonstrated effectiveness in  
29 promoting health and preventing illness and injury, both intentional  
30 and unintentional;

1 (8) Biennially establish state-wide objectives after consultation  
2 with the local health jurisdictions and state board of health as  
3 recommended in the state health report and considering United States  
4 public health service year 2000 objectives. Using data on Washington  
5 residents, the department shall adopt state-wide objectives in a manner  
6 that addresses at least the following national objectives to be  
7 achieved by the year 2000:

8 (a) Reduce cigarette smoking among people twenty years and over  
9 from 29.1 percent to no more than fifteen percent;

10 (b) Reduce cigarette smoking among people less than twenty years  
11 from 29.5 percent to no more than fifteen percent;

12 (c) Reduce breast cancer deaths from 27.2 per one hundred thousand  
13 women to no more than 25.2 per one hundred thousand;

14 (d) Reduce prevalence of cholesterol levels of two hundred forty  
15 milligrams per deciliter among people twenty and older from 26.8  
16 percent to no more than twenty percent;

17 (e) Reduce deaths from cancer of the uterine cervix from 3.2 per  
18 one hundred thousand women to no more than 1.5 per one hundred thousand  
19 women;

20 (f) Reduce serious nonfatal head injuries from one hundred eleven  
21 per one hundred thousand people to no more than eighty-three per one  
22 hundred thousand;

23 (g) Reduce drowning deaths from 2.6 per one hundred thousand  
24 persons to no more than 1.7 per one hundred thousand persons;

25 (h) Improve control of diabetes, as measured by a reduction in  
26 hospitalization from 13.8 per one thousand people with diabetes to 6.9  
27 per one thousand people with diabetes;

28 (i) Reverse the rising incidence of physical abuse of children  
29 under age eighteen from 10.7 per one thousand children to no more than  
30 10 per one thousand children;

1 (j) Reduce assault injuries among people age twelve and older from  
2 1841.8 per one hundred thousand people to no more than 1650 per one  
3 hundred thousand people;

4 (k) Reduce alcohol-related motor vehicle crash deaths from 9.7 per  
5 one hundred thousand people to 8.5 per one hundred thousand people;

6 (l) Reduce by fifty percent the use of alcohol, marijuana, and  
7 cocaine among young people ages twelve to seventeen years from 25.2  
8 percent for alcohol, 6.4 percent for marijuana, and 1.1 percent for  
9 cocaine;

10 (m) Reduce annual average alcohol consumption by people age  
11 fourteen and older by twenty-three percent from 2.6 gallons of ethanol  
12 per year to 2 gallons of ethanol per year;

13 (n) Reduce by twenty-five percent the number of infants born to  
14 chemical abusing women; and

15 (o) Reduce the incidence of gonorrhoea from 297 cases per one  
16 hundred thousand people to 225 cases per one hundred thousand people;

17 (9) Biennially evaluate local health jurisdictions' progress in  
18 meeting objectives, according to subsection (8) of this section.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The department shall establish a state-wide  
20 system of health promotion and disease prevention regions as follows:

21 (1) The department, in collaboration with local health  
22 jurisdictions, shall designate regions and assist these regions in  
23 establishing local health promotion and disease and intentional and  
24 unintentional injury prevention priority objectives based on analysis  
25 of the information in section 2 of this act. Regions shall be  
26 consistent with the organizational principles in chapter 43.70 RCW,  
27 and, to the extent possible, reflect unique grouping of disease or  
28 injury incidence or populations identified at risk.

1 (2) The department shall designate regions incorporating the entire  
2 state by January 1, 1992.

3 (3) Each region shall prepare, through a cooperative effort of  
4 local health departments, other health care providers, schools,  
5 community, business, and health organizations within the region, a  
6 regional health promotion and disease and intentional and unintentional  
7 injury prevention strategy that addresses the objectives established  
8 under subsection (1) of this section. The strategy shall incorporate  
9 existing efforts where appropriate. The strategies shall place  
10 emphasis on collaboration with local voluntary organizations within the  
11 region. Regions designated under subsection (2) of this section shall  
12 submit a regional health promotion and disease prevention strategy  
13 within six months of regional designation. All regions shall submit a  
14 regional health promotion and disease and intentional and unintentional  
15 injury prevention strategy for the following biennium by July 1, 1993,  
16 and biennially thereafter.

17 (4) The department shall biennially prepare a statement of progress  
18 toward meeting state-wide health promotion and disease and intentional  
19 and unintentional injury prevention objectives specified in section 2  
20 of this act. The statement shall also reflect regional strategy  
21 implementation accomplishments of the preceding biennium.

22 (5) Health promotion and disease and intentional and unintentional  
23 injury prevention interventions under sections 2 through 4 of this act  
24 shall include measures with demonstrated effectiveness in meeting  
25 regional health promotion and disease and intentional and unintentional  
26 injury prevention objectives. Interventions may include at least  
27 health screening services and assessments, public education campaigns,  
28 and targeted education efforts. In no case may interventions under  
29 sections 2 through 4 of this act include the delivery of primary health  
30 or social services.

1 (6) In developing intervention strategies regarding the health of  
2 children and adolescents, the region shall cooperate with all local  
3 school districts within the region. It is the region's obligation to  
4 involve local school districts in planning these interventions for  
5 children and adolescents. If a local school district declines to  
6 participate, the school district shall submit a written statement to  
7 this effect to the region. This statement must be submitted by the  
8 region with their regional health promotion and disease and intentional  
9 and unintentional injury prevention strategy.

10 (7) The regional health promotion and disease and intentional and  
11 unintentional injury prevention strategy shall be developed and  
12 administered by the local public health jurisdiction within the region.  
13 If a region encompasses more than one local public health jurisdiction,  
14 those jurisdictions shall select a jurisdiction to develop and  
15 administer the regional strategy. In the event agreement cannot be  
16 reached, the department shall determine the lead jurisdiction.

17 (8) Available funding for health promotion and disease and  
18 intentional and unintentional injury prevention regions shall be  
19 allocated in grants based on priorities established under subsection  
20 (1) of this section and the cost efficiencies of interventions  
21 associated with those priorities.

22 (9) If the department is not able to establish a region by  
23 agreement solely with local health jurisdictions, it may contract with  
24 nonprofit agencies for any or all of the development and administration  
25 of the regional health promotion and disease and intentional and  
26 unintentional injury prevention strategy.

27 (10) The department shall reflect the funds necessary to implement  
28 this section in its departmental biennial budget request.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.**    The state board of health shall review the  
2 health promotion and disease and intentional and unintentional injury  
3 prevention objectives established in section 2 of this act and  
4 recommend modification as part of the state health report.

5        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 5.**    Sections 2 through 4 of this act are each  
6 added to chapter 43.70 RCW.

7        **Sec. 6.**    RCW 43.59.030 and 1982 c 30 s 1 are each amended to read  
8 as follows:

9        The governor shall be assisted in his or her duties and  
10 responsibilities by the Washington state traffic safety commission.  
11 The Washington traffic safety commission shall be composed of the  
12 governor as ((~~chairman~~)) chair, the superintendent of public  
13 instruction, the director of licensing, the secretary of  
14 transportation, the chief of the state patrol, the secretary of social  
15 and health services, the secretary of health, a representative of the  
16 association of Washington cities to be appointed by the governor, a  
17 member of the association of counties to be appointed by the governor,  
18 and a representative of the judiciary to be appointed by the governor.  
19 Appointments to any vacancies among appointee members shall be as in  
20 the case of original appointment.

21        The governor may designate an employee of the governor's office to  
22 act on behalf of the governor during the absence of the governor at one  
23 or more of the meetings of the commission. The vote of the designee  
24 shall have the same effect as if cast by the governor if the  
25 designation is in writing and is presented to the person presiding at  
26 the meetings included within the designation.

27        The governor may designate a member to preside during the  
28 governor's absence.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 7.**    The sum of ..... dollars, or as much  
2    thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated from the general fund to  
3    the department of health for the biennium ending June 30, 1993, to  
4    carry out the purposes of this act.