
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5650

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators West, Wojahn, L. Smith, Niemi, Johnson, L. Kreidler, Amondson, Barr, Sutherland and Bauer).

Read first time March 6, 1991.

1 AN ACT Relating to community outreach for health; adding new
2 sections to chapter 43.70 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that current
5 health and social service outreach programs focus primarily on
6 multimedia campaigns, telephone hotlines, and professional case finding
7 and referrals. These programs may fail to address the access barriers
8 experienced by high-risk pregnant and parenting women and their
9 families. The legislature finds that active outreach programs using
10 indigenous, nonprofessional community members and resources offer
11 unique credibility and supports that cannot be duplicated by
12 professional efforts or multimedia campaigns. The legislature further
13 finds that indigenous community outreach programs achieve health
14 improvements comparable or superior to professional or educational
15 outreach programs.

1 The purpose of sections 1 and 2 of this act is to empower
2 individuals, businesses, voluntary community organizations, and others
3 to promote health and prevent illness and injury among high-risk
4 pregnant and parenting women and their families in their local
5 community through active outreach programs using indigenous,
6 nonprofessional community members and resources.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The secretary shall assist local health
8 departments in establishing pilot local community outreach for health
9 programs using indigenous, nonprofessional community volunteers. Local
10 health departments shall collaborate with local government and existing
11 community-based organizations, including churches, voluntary
12 philanthropic or service organizations, businesses, schools, community
13 and migrant health clinics, other health care providers, existing local
14 outreach programs, and other interested parties to: (1) Identify
15 geographic areas and population groups experiencing substantial health
16 risks among pregnant and parenting women and their families; and (2)
17 develop and coordinate community outreach for health programs targeted
18 toward at-risk geographic areas or population groups identified
19 according to this section.

20 Community outreach programs shall focus on direct contact and may
21 provide support, education, referral, or other activities that
22 facilitate access to public and private community resources according
23 to individual or family need.

24 Available funding for community outreach for health programs shall
25 be allocated in grants from the department of health based on broad
26 community participation, potential for health improvements and
27 community empowerment. Applications for grants must provide a fifty
28 percent match of funds or in-kind resources from local government,

1 community organizations, or other private sources. Volunteer hours may
2 be counted against this match at the rate of five dollars per hour.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If specific funding for this act, citing
4 this act by bill number is not provided in the 1991 omnibus
5 appropriations act this act shall be null and void.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act are each
7 added to chapter 43.70 RCW.