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SENATE BILL 5774

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State of Washington                      52nd Legislature                      1991 Regular Session

By Senators Wojahn, L. Smith, Niemi and Sutherland.

Read first time February 19, 1991. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1            AN ACT Relating to the use of alcohol and other drugs during  
2 pregnancy; adding new sections to Title 70 RCW; creating a new section;  
3 and making an appropriation.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**            The legislature recognizes that the use  
6 of alcohol and other drugs during pregnancy can cause medical,  
7 psychological, and social problems for women and infants. The  
8 legislature further recognizes that communities are increasingly  
9 concerned about this problem and the associated costs to the mothers,  
10 infants, and society as a whole. The legislature recognizes that the  
11 department of health and other agencies are focusing on primary  
12 prevention activities to reduce the use of alcohol or drugs during  
13 pregnancy but few efforts have focused on secondary prevention efforts  
14 aimed at intervening in the lives of women already involved in the use  
15 of alcohol or other drugs during pregnancy. The legislature recognizes

1 that the best way to prevent problems for chemically dependent pregnant  
2 women and their resulting children is to engage the women in alcohol or  
3 drug treatment. The legislature acknowledges that treatment  
4 professionals find pretreatment services to clients to be important in  
5 engaging women in alcohol or drug treatment. Therefore the legislature  
6 intends to prevent the detrimental effects of alcohol or other drug use  
7 to women and their resulting infants by promoting the establishment of  
8 local programs to help facilitate a pregnant woman's entry into alcohol  
9 or other drug treatment. These programs shall provide secondary  
10 prevention services and provision of opportunities for immediate  
11 treatment so that women who seek help are welcomed rather than  
12 ostracized.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Unless the context clearly requires  
14 otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this  
15 chapter.

16 (1) "Department" means the state department of social and health  
17 services.

18 (2) "Chemically dependent individual" means someone suffering from  
19 alcoholism or drug addiction, or dependence on alcohol or one or more  
20 other psychoactive chemicals.

21 (3) "Alcoholism" means a disease, characterized by a dependency on  
22 alcoholic beverages, loss of control over the amount and circumstances  
23 of alcohol use, symptoms of tolerance, physiological or psychological  
24 withdrawal, or both, if use is reduced or discontinued and impairment  
25 of health or disruption of social or economic functioning.

26 (4) "Approved treatment program" means a discrete program of  
27 chemical dependency treatment provided by a treatment program certified  
28 by the department of social and health services as meeting standards  
29 adopted under this chapter.

1 (5) "Drug addiction" means a disease characterized by a dependency  
2 on psychoactive chemicals, loss of control over the amount and  
3 circumstances of use, symptoms of tolerance, physiological or  
4 psychological withdrawal, or both, if use is reduced or discontinued,  
5 and impairment of health or disruptions of social or economic  
6 functioning.

7 (6) "Treatment" means the broad range of emergency detoxification,  
8 residential, and outpatient services and care, including diagnostic  
9 evaluation, chemical dependency education and counseling, medical,  
10 psychiatric, psychological, and social service care, vocational  
11 rehabilitation, and career counseling, that may be extended to  
12 chemically dependent individuals and their families.

13 (7) "Treatment program" means an organization, institution, or  
14 corporation, public or private, engaged in the care, treatment, or  
15 rehabilitation of chemically dependent individuals.

16 (8) "Secondary prevention" means identifying and obtaining an  
17 assessment on individuals using alcohol or other drugs for referral to  
18 treatment when indicated.

19 (9) "Primary prevention" means providing information about the  
20 effects of alcohol or drug use to individuals so they will avoid using  
21 these substances.

22 (10) "Tertiary prevention" means providing treatment to limit the  
23 negative impact of alcohol or drug use on an individual's life.

24 (11) "Assessment" means an interview with an individual to  
25 determine if he or she is chemically dependent and in need of referral  
26 to an approved treatment program.

27 (12) "Pretreatment" means the period of time prior to an  
28 individual's enrollment in alcohol or drug treatment.

29 (13) "Pretreatment services" means activities taking place prior to  
30 treatment that include identification of individuals using alcohol or

1 drugs, education, assessment of their use, evaluation of need for  
2 treatment, referral to an approved treatment program, and advocacy on  
3 a client's behalf with social service agencies or others to ensure and  
4 coordinate a client's entry into treatment.

5 (14) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department of social  
6 and health services.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The secretary shall develop and promote  
8 state-wide secondary prevention strategies designed to increase the use  
9 of alcohol and drug treatment services by women of child-bearing age,  
10 before, during, and immediately after pregnancy. These efforts are  
11 conducted through the division of alcohol and substance abuse. The  
12 secretary shall:

13 (1) Promote development of four pilot demonstration projects in the  
14 state to be called pretreatment projects for pregnant women. Two of  
15 the pilot projects are in urban areas and two are in rural areas.

16 (2) Ensure that one of the four projects is located in a public  
17 health department clinic providing maternity services and one is  
18 located in a county correctional facility.

19 (3)(a) Hire a certified chemical dependency counselor to work as a  
20 substance abuse educator in the public health clinic for a salary of  
21 forty-two thousand dollars, and hire a certified chemical dependency  
22 counselor to work as a substance abuse educator in a county  
23 correctional facility for a salary of forty-two thousand dollars.

24 (b) Ensure that the duties and activities of the certified chemical  
25 dependency counselors include, at a minimum, the following:

26 (i) Identify substance-using pregnant women in the health clinic or  
27 correctional facility;

28 (ii) Educate the women on the effects of alcohol or drugs on  
29 health, pregnancy, and unborn children;

- 1 (iii) Determine the extent of the women's substance use;
- 2 (iv) Evaluate the women's need for treatment;
- 3 (v) Make referrals for chemical dependency treatment if indicated;
- 4 (vi) Facilitate the women's entry into treatment; and
- 5 (vii) Advocate on the client's behalf with other social service
- 6 agencies or others to ensure and coordinate clients into treatment.

7 (4) Promote development of two pilot projects through a request-  
8 for-proposal process. The purpose of the request-for-proposal process  
9 is to solicit applications to provide pretreatment services to  
10 facilitate a chemically dependent pregnant woman's entry into alcohol  
11 or drug treatment.

12 (a) The proposals must address each of the following pretreatment  
13 services: Identification of alcohol or drug use, education, assessment  
14 of alcohol or drug problems, evaluation, referral, and advocacy with  
15 other social service organizations or others to ensure a client's entry  
16 into treatment.

17 (b) Proposals must address how applicant will access target  
18 population.

19 (c) Eighty thousand dollars per year is provided to each of the two  
20 pilot projects.

21 (d) Eligible applicants should have prior experience with alcohol  
22 or drug issues.

23 (5) Administrative costs of the department are limited to ten  
24 percent of the funds appropriated for the project.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The sum of four hundred eighty-eight  
26 thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is  
27 appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 1993, from the general  
28 fund to the department of social and health services for the purposes  
29 of this act.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 5.**        Sections 2 and 3 of this act are each  
2 added to Title 70 RCW.