
HOUSE BILL 1628

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representatives Leonard, Dellwo, Riley, Rust, Valle, Brown, Karahalios, Flemming, Linville, Thibaudeau, Brough, Pruitt, Jones, Basich, King, Wang, Patterson, Johanson, Kessler, Bray, G. Cole, G. Fisher, Jacobsen, Locke, Sheldon, Rayburn, Cothorn, Wineberry, Veloria, Morris, J. Kohl, L. Johnson and Anderson

Read first time 02/03/93. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to immunization; adding a new section to chapter
2 43.20 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 43.70 RCW; and declaring an
3 emergency.

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

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

6 (1) There has been an increase in the number of children
7 contracting vaccine-preventable infectious diseases;

8 (2) This trend has occurred despite the availability of safe and
9 effective immunizations which can prevent these debilitating and life-
10 threatening diseases;

11 (3) Parents and guardians of children are often unaware of the need
12 for timely immunizations and the public health risks of the failure to
13 be properly immunized;

14 (4) Many adults are unaware of their risk of contracting vaccine-
15 preventable infectious diseases and the availability of effective
16 immunizations.

17 The legislature declares that it is in the public health interest
18 of the people of the state of Washington that all children and adults
19 should be properly immunized.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.20 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 (1) The state board of health shall adopt rules by October 1, 1993,
4 that establish a schedule of appropriate immunizations against vaccine-
5 preventable infectious diseases for children and adults. The schedule
6 shall include the type of immunization recommended and the appropriate
7 age for receiving vaccines. The state board of health shall consider
8 and define increased risk factors for vaccine-preventable disease for
9 adults in special settings or with special workplace hazards. When
10 implementing this section the state board of health shall consider
11 recommended immunization schedules developed by such entities as the
12 United States public health service advisory committee on immunization
13 practices and the American academy of pediatrics committee on
14 infectious diseases, or their successors. The state board of health
15 may modify by rule the recommended immunization schedule from time to
16 time based on emerging medical and public health needs.

17 (2) The state board of health shall make immunization schedules
18 required by this section available to the secretary of health, the
19 secretary of social and health services, and the general public no
20 later than November 1, 1993.

21 (3) The state board of health shall develop rules for storage,
22 maintenance, and delivery of state-purchased vaccine products
23 consistent with national standards. The state board of health shall
24 consider recommendations by the product manufacturer, the federal
25 centers for disease control, the United States public health service
26 advisory committee on immunization practices, and the American academy
27 of pediatrics committee on infectious diseases, or their successors.
28 The rules shall include appropriate and updated education for providers
29 of vaccine products which is consistent with national standards. In
30 adopting rules regarding education for providers, the state board of
31 health shall consider recommendations from the federal centers for
32 disease control, the United States public health service advisory
33 committee on immunization practices, and the American academy of
34 pediatrics committee on infectious diseases, or their successors.

35 (4) The state board of health shall adopt rules which require proof
36 of immunization of students entering public and private higher
37 education programs in this state, including four-year institutions,
38 community colleges, and vocational schools.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) Effective July 1, 1993, the secretary of
2 health, in consultation with the department of social and health
3 services, shall establish up to five demonstration projects for the
4 purpose of increasing immunization utilization rates among preschool
5 children. The projects shall be established to identify the most
6 effective, cost-efficient, and least burdensome manner to achieve
7 immunization target rates as a part of the programs. In the
8 development of projects, the secretary of health shall utilize age-
9 appropriate immunization schedules as developed by the state board of
10 health by rule. The secretary of health shall also consider enhanced
11 immunization target rates as established in national public health
12 goals regarding vaccine-preventable infectious diseases.

13 In selecting demonstration project sites, the secretary of health
14 shall select sites in both rural and urban areas of the state and in
15 areas east and west of the Cascade mountains. The projects shall be
16 structured in a manner to permit the evaluation of different approaches
17 to enhance timely immunization utilization rates among the targeted
18 population. The projects shall be utilized to demonstrate a state-wide
19 registry system as provided in section 5 of this act. In meeting the
20 requirements of this section, the secretary of health shall establish
21 projects using specific state-administered social and health services
22 programs for preschool children. Projects may also be determined by
23 selecting particular geographic regions of the state which show high
24 incidence rates or low utilization rates of immunizations, or both.
25 Projects may also be delivered through community health providers which
26 have authorized participation in state-supplied vaccine delivery.

27 (2) The secretary of health shall report biennially to the
28 appropriate standing committees of the senate and the house of
29 representatives with an evaluation of the effectiveness of the various
30 methods used to enhance immunization target rates.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The secretary of health shall establish
32 an immunization enhancement grant program for the purpose of providing
33 funding to counties for activities that increase immunization for
34 vaccine-preventable infectious diseases, with an emphasis on program
35 components for timely immunization of preschool children. The
36 department of health shall request that each local health department
37 submit a county immunization enhancement plan that meets the
38 requirements of subsection (2) of this section. The plan shall include

1 a description of how the local health department will consult and
2 involve existing health care providers within its jurisdiction where
3 the providers have previously been involved in the administration of
4 state-supplied immunizations or have shown an interest in becoming
5 involved. The plan shall include the establishment of a county-wide
6 immunization task force. This task force shall include, but not be
7 limited to, members from social and health services, public health, and
8 minority outreach communities, community service organizations, private
9 medical providers, and advocacy groups.

10 (2) The immunization enhancement plan shall include at least the
11 following components:

12 (a) A description of the population groups in the county which are
13 in greatest need of immunizations;

14 (b) A description of providers in the county capable of and willing
15 to administer immunizations and how the providers will be used in the
16 implementation of the plan;

17 (c) A description of steps to meet immunization target rates set
18 forth by the department of health and national public health goals;

19 (d) A description of how the plan will be implemented;

20 (e) A description of current fees used to support local
21 immunization efforts and charged to patients. Funding provided through
22 grants shall be used to supplement not replace such fees;

23 (f) An analysis of financial and nonfinancial barriers that are
24 preventing children from receiving immunizations and a description of
25 how the plan will remove such barriers;

26 (g) A description of strategies to use outreach, volunteer, and
27 other local educational resources to increase immunization awareness
28 and to enhance utilization of immunization;

29 (h) A description of how implementation of the plan will be
30 coordinated with other state and local vaccine-preventable infectious
31 disease immunization efforts;

32 (i) A program of utilization of the state-wide immunization
33 registry set forth in section 5 of this act; and

34 (j) An annual program evaluation to be reviewed by the department
35 of health.

36 (3) The secretary of health shall use immunization target rates in
37 approving local immunization enhancement plans and for monitoring and
38 evaluating progress toward implementing the plans.

1 (4) The secretary of health shall approve the immunization
2 enhancement plans and disperse the program funding.

3 (5) The secretary of health may contract with a nonprofit entity to
4 prepare and administer the immunization enhancement plan should a plan
5 not be submitted by the local health department or not approved by the
6 department of health.

7 (6) This section shall be implemented consistent with available
8 funds.

9 (7) The secretary of health shall report biennially to the
10 appropriate standing and fiscal committees of the senate and the house
11 of representatives on the status of the program and progress made
12 toward meeting the immunization target rates.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) The secretary of health shall establish
14 a state-wide registry for immunization tracking. In selecting a system
15 of registry, the secretary of health shall consult with the federal
16 centers for disease control for partnership in a national registry.
17 The secretary of health shall establish an immunization advisory
18 committee which will assist in the selection and implementation of a
19 state-wide immunization registry and provide consultation on all other
20 components of this chapter. The department shall request funding for
21 design, implementation, maintenance, and evaluation of a state-wide
22 immunization registry. The secretary of health may choose to use
23 additional funding from grants and donations for immunization program
24 enhancement.

25 (2) Appropriate funding shall be requested by the department of
26 health for a five-year state-wide awareness campaign. This campaign
27 shall enhance existing community resources and support the local grant
28 process with a state-wide campaign.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 and 3 through 5 of this act are
30 each added to chapter 43.70 RCW.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** This act is necessary for the immediate
32 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
33 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
34 effect immediately.

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