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HOUSE BILL 3103

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State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Representatives Dickerson, Cooke, Tokuda, Keiser, Ogden, Costa and Boldt

Read first time 02/02/98. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to prenatal newborn screening for exposure to  
2 harmful drugs; adding a new chapter to Title 70 RCW; and creating a new  
3 section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The policy of the state of Washington is to  
6 make every effort to detect as early as feasible and to prevent where  
7 possible preventable disorders resulting from parental use of alcohol  
8 and drugs.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The department of health, in consultation  
10 with appropriate medical professionals, shall develop screening  
11 criteria for use in identifying pregnant or lactating women addicted to  
12 drugs or alcohol who are at risk of producing a drug-affected baby.  
13 The department shall also develop training protocols for medical  
14 professionals related to the identification and screening of women at  
15 risk of producing a drug-affected baby.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The department of health shall investigate  
17 the feasibility of medical protocols for laboratory testing or other

1 screening of newborn infants for exposure to alcohol or drugs. The  
2 department of health shall consider how to improve the current system  
3 with respect to testing, considering such variables as whether such  
4 testing is available, its cost, which entity is currently responsible  
5 for ordering testing, and whether testing should be mandatory or  
6 targeted.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The department of health shall report to the  
8 appropriate legislative committees on its findings under sections 2 and  
9 3 of this act by December 1, 1998.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 3 of this act constitute  
11 a new chapter in Title 70 RCW.

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