

# ANALYSIS OF HOUSE BILL 1988

Expanding maternity care for at-risk mothers.

**SPONSORS:** Representatives Kagi and Ballasiotes.

**BACKGROUND:** Maternity care services are currently available for low-income mothers to provide healthy birth outcomes for the mother and child. Some at-risk mothers and children are also eligible to receive support services that provide public health nursing assessment and follow-up, assessment, counseling, and alcohol and drug treatment. Maternity care services and support services end six weeks after the birth of the child.

**SUMMARY:** Extended maternity care services will be made available to at-risk mothers and their children for up to three years from the birth of the child. The Department of Social and Health Services will phase in coverage of at-risk mothers and their children. A maternity care endowment fund is established to receive private donations and funds to support extended maternity care services. A business and occupation tax credit is established for donations made to the maternity care endowment fund.