

5968-S

Sponsor(s): Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Loveland and Rasmussen)

Brief Title: Requiring supplemental payments to nursing facilities operated by public hospital districts.

**SB 5968-S - DIGEST**

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Provides that, to the extent the federal government approves such payments under the state's plan for medical assistance, and only to the extent that funds are specifically appropriated for this purpose in the biennial appropriations act, the department shall make supplemental payments to nursing facilities operated by public hospital districts.

Authorizes supplemental payments for nursing facilities operated by public hospital districts.

VETO MESSAGE ON SB 5968-S

May 18, 1999

To the Honorable President and Members,  
The Senate of the State of Washington  
Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am returning herewith, without my approval as to section 2(14), Substitute Senate Bill No. 5968 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to human services;"

Substitute Senate Bill No. 5968 establishes a Pro-Share program with the federal government that will fund nursing homes operated by public hospital districts.

Section 2(14) of the bill is an appropriation item proviso that would require the Department of Social and Health Services "Medical Assistance Administration to provide chiropractic services to adults. However, additional funding is not provided. This unfunded mandate would force the Medical Assistance Administration to reduce services elsewhere. While chiropractic services can be very beneficial, I do not believe other services of the Medical Assistance Administration should be reduced to provide them.

For these reasons, I have vetoed section 2(14) of Substitute Senate Bill No. 5968.

With the exception of section 2(14), Substitute Senate Bill No. 5968 is approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary Locke  
Governor