

2SSB 6197 - H COMM AMD
By Committee on Appropriations

ADOPTED 03/02/2006

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

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

5 The legislature finds that women and people of color experience
6 significant disparities from men and the general population in
7 education, employment, healthful living conditions, access to health
8 care, and other social determinants of health. The legislature finds
9 that these circumstances coupled with lower, slower, and less
10 culturally appropriate and gender appropriate access to needed medical
11 care result in higher rates of morbidity and mortality for women and
12 persons of color than observed in the general population. Health
13 disparities are defined by the national institute of health as the
14 differences in incidence, prevalence, mortality, and burden of disease
15 and other adverse health conditions that exist among specific
16 population groups in the United States.

17 It is the intent of the Washington state legislature to create the
18 healthiest state in the nation by striving to eliminate health
19 disparities in people of color and between men and women. In meeting
20 the intent of this act, the legislature creates the governor's
21 interagency coordinating council on health disparities. This council
22 shall create an action plan and statewide policy to include health
23 impact reviews that measure and address other social determinants of
24 health that lead to disparities as well as the contributing factors of
25 health that can have broad impacts on improving status, health
26 literacy, physical activity, and nutrition.

27 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.20.025 and 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 s 208 are each
28 amended to read as follows:

1 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
2 this section apply throughout this chapter.

3 (1) "Commissions" means the Washington state commission on African-
4 American affairs established in chapter 43.113 RCW, the Washington
5 state commission on Asian Pacific American affairs established in
6 chapter 43.117 RCW, the Washington state commission on Hispanic affairs
7 established in chapter 43.115 RCW, and the governor's office of Indian
8 affairs.

9 (2) "Consumer representative" means any person who is not an
10 elected official, who has no fiduciary obligation to a health facility
11 or other health agency, and who has no material financial interest in
12 the rendering of health services.

13 ~~((+2))~~ (3) "Council" means the ~~((health care access and cost~~
14 ~~control))~~ governor's interagency coordinating council on health
15 disparities, convened according to this chapter.

16 ~~((+3))~~ (4) "Department" means the department of health.

17 ~~((+4))~~ (5) "Health disparities" means the difference in incidence,
18 prevalence, mortality, or burden of disease and other adverse health
19 conditions, including lack of access to proven health care services
20 that exists between specific population groups in Washington state.

21 (6) "Health impact review" means a review of a legislative or
22 budgetary proposal completed according to the terms of this chapter
23 that determines the extent to which the proposal improves or
24 exacerbates health disparities.

25 (7) "Secretary" means the secretary of health, or the secretary's
26 designee.

27 ~~((+5))~~ (8) "Local health board" means a health board created
28 pursuant to chapter 70.05, 70.08, or 70.46 RCW.

29 ~~((+6))~~ (9) "Local health officer" means the legally qualified
30 physician appointed as a health officer pursuant to chapter 70.05,
31 70.08, or 70.46 RCW.

32 ~~((+7))~~ (10) "Social determinants of health" means those elements
33 of social structure most closely shown to affect health and illness,
34 including at a minimum, early learning, education, socioeconomic
35 standing, safe housing, gender, incidence of violence, convenient and
36 affordable access to safe opportunities for physical activity, healthy
37 diet, and appropriate health care services.

1 (11) "State board" means the state board of health created under
2 chapter 43.20 RCW.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.20 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) In collaboration with staff whom the office of financial
6 management may assign, and within funds made expressly available to the
7 state board for these purposes, the state board shall assist the
8 governor by convening and providing assistance to the council. The
9 council shall include one representative from each of the following
10 groups: Each of the commissions, the state board, the department, the
11 department of social and health services, the department of community,
12 trade, and economic development, the health care authority, the
13 department of agriculture, the department of ecology, the office of the
14 superintendent of public instruction, the department of early learning,
15 the work force training and education coordinating board, and two
16 members of the public who will represent the interests of health care
17 consumers. The council is a class one group under RCW 43.03.220. The
18 two public members shall be paid per diem and travel expenses in
19 accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060. The council shall reflect
20 diversity in race, ethnicity, and gender. The governor or the
21 governor's designee shall chair the council.

22 (2) The council shall promote and facilitate communication,
23 coordination, and collaboration among relevant state agencies and
24 communities of color, and the private sector and public sector, to
25 address health disparities. The council shall conduct public hearings,
26 inquiries, studies, or other forms of information gathering to
27 understand how the actions of state government ameliorate or contribute
28 to health disparities. All state agencies must cooperate with the
29 council's efforts.

30 (3) The council with assistance from the state board, shall assess
31 through public hearings, review of existing data, and other means, and
32 recommend initiatives for improving the availability of culturally
33 appropriate health literature and interpretive services within public
34 and private health-related agencies.

35 (4) In order to assist with its work, the council shall establish
36 advisory committees to assist in plan development for specific issues

1 and shall include members of other state agencies and local
2 communities.

3 (5) The advisory committee shall reflect diversity in race,
4 ethnicity, and gender.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 43.20 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 The council shall consider in its deliberations and by 2012, create
8 an action plan for eliminating health disparities. The action plan
9 must address, but is not limited to, the following diseases,
10 conditions, and health indicators: Diabetes, asthma, infant mortality,
11 HIV/AIDS, heart disease, strokes, breast cancer, cervical cancer,
12 prostate cancer, chronic kidney disease, sudden infant death syndrome
13 (SIDS), mental health, women's health issues, smoking cessation, oral
14 disease, and immunization rates of children and senior citizens. The
15 council shall prioritize the diseases, conditions, and health
16 indicators according to prevalence and severity of the health
17 disparity. The council shall address these priorities on an
18 incremental basis by adding no more than five of the diseases,
19 conditions, and health indicators to each update or revised version of
20 the action plan. The action plan shall be updated biannually. The
21 council shall meet as often as necessary but not less than two times
22 per calendar year. The council shall report its progress with the
23 action plan to the governor and the legislature no later than January
24 15, 2008. A second report shall be presented no later than January 15,
25 2010, and a third report from the council shall be presented to the
26 governor and the legislature no later than January 15, 2012.
27 Thereafter, the governor and legislature shall require progress updates
28 from the council every four years in odd-numbered years. The action
29 plan shall recognize the need for flexibility.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 43.20 RCW
31 to read as follows:

32 The state board shall, to the extent that funds are available
33 expressly for this purpose, complete health impact reviews, in
34 collaboration with the council, and with assistance that shall be
35 provided by any state agency of which the board makes a request.

1 (1) A health impact review may be initiated by a written request
2 submitted according to forms and procedures proposed by the council and
3 approved by the state board before December 1, 2006.

4 (2) Any state legislator or the governor may request a review of
5 any proposal for a state legislative or budgetary change. Upon
6 receiving a request for a health impact review from the governor or a
7 member of the legislature during a legislative session, the state board
8 shall deliver the health impact review to the requesting party in no
9 more than ten days.

10 (3) The state board may limit the number of health impact reviews
11 it produces to retain quality while operating within its available
12 resources.

13 (4) A state agency may decline a request to provide assistance if
14 complying with the request would not be feasible while operating within
15 its available resources.

16 (5) Upon delivery of the review to the requesting party, it shall
17 be a public document, and shall be available on the state board's web
18 site.

19 (6) The review shall be based on the best available empirical
20 information and professional assumptions available to the state board
21 within the time required for completing the review. The review should
22 consider direct impacts on health disparities as well as changes in the
23 social determinants of health.

24 (7) The state board and the department shall collaborate to obtain
25 any federal or private funding that may become available to implement
26 the state board's duties under this chapter. If the department
27 receives such funding, the department shall allocate it to the state
28 board and affected agencies to implement its duties under this chapter,
29 and any state general funds that may have been appropriated but are no
30 longer needed by the state board shall lapse to the state general fund.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 43.20 RCW
32 to read as follows:

33 The state board and the department shall collaborate to obtain any
34 federal or private funding that may become available to implement the
35 state board's duties under this chapter. If the department receives
36 such funding, the department shall allocate it to the state board to

1 implement its duties under this chapter, and any state general funds
2 that may have been appropriated but are no longer needed by the state
3 board shall lapse to the state general fund.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 44.28 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 The joint committee shall conduct a review of the governor's
7 interagency coordinating council on health disparities and its
8 functions. The review shall be substantially the same as a sunset
9 review under chapter 43.131 RCW. The joint committee shall present its
10 findings to appropriate committees of the legislature by December 1,
11 2016."

12 Correct the title.

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