

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 5846

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As Reported By Senate Committee On:  
Health & Long-Term Care, February 28, 2005

**Title:** An act relating to distribution of unused prescription drugs to low-income persons.

**Brief Description:** Ordering a study of distribution of unused prescription drugs to low-income persons.

**Sponsors:** Senators Parlette, Kohl-Welles, Oke and Kline.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Health & Long-Term Care: 2/24/05, 2/28/05 [DP-WM].

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & LONG-TERM CARE

**Majority Report:** Do pass and be referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

Signed by Senators Keiser, Chair; Thibaudeau, Vice Chair; Benson, Franklin, Kastama, Kline, Parlette and Poulsen.

**Staff:** Jonathan Seib (786-7427)

**Background:** Individuals in recent years have become much more reliant on prescription drugs to improve and maintain their health. At the same time, retail drug prices have increased substantially, leaving many unable to afford their prescribed medications.

It is suggested the redistribution of unused prescription drugs, which may otherwise be discarded, from long-term care facilities might be one means to address concerns over access to affordable medications.

**Summary of Bill:** The Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee is to study and make recommendations to the legislature by December 1, 2006 regarding the establishment of a program to distribute unused prescription drugs left over in long-term care facilities to low-income people and others who cannot afford their medications.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For:** None.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Who Testified:** No one.