
HOUSE BILL 2326

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Representatives Bailey, Alexander, Miloscia, Haler, Armstrong, McDonald, Ahern, Skinner, Rodne, Talcott, Clements, Nixon and Newhouse

Read first time 04/14/2005. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to funding for public health improvement; amending
2 RCW 43.79.480; adding a new section to chapter 43.70 RCW; and creating
3 a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that protecting the
6 public's health is essential and that the threat of a pandemic outbreak
7 of a disease is ongoing and growing. The legislature also finds that
8 the public health system as defined in RCW 43.70.575 is essential to
9 fulfilling the state's responsibility to protect the health and safety
10 of its citizens. The legislature further finds that local public
11 health departments lack adequate resources even as their duties
12 increase. Rather than risk catastrophic loss of life, the legislature
13 further finds that local public health departments must immediately be
14 given the resources to effectively implement the specific public health
15 improvement standards concerning threats to our drinking water and food
16 supplies, communicable disease, and other first-responder duties unique
17 to local public health departments, pursuant to the requirements in RCW
18 43.70.520.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.70 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 The public health improvement account is created in the state
4 treasury. All receipts from strategic contribution payments received
5 by the state of Washington in accordance with the settlement of the
6 state's legal action against tobacco product manufacturers shall be
7 deposited in the account. The legislature may make additional
8 appropriations to the account. Moneys in the account may be spent only
9 after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used to fund
10 programs and activities undertaken by the department of health, county
11 public health departments, and public health districts to achieve the
12 local public health standards adopted in the public health services
13 improvement plan pursuant to RCW 43.70.520(8).

14 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.79.480 and 2002 c 365 s 15 are each amended to read
15 as follows:

16 (1) Moneys received by the state of Washington in accordance with
17 the settlement of the state's legal action against tobacco product
18 manufacturers, exclusive of costs and attorneys' fees, shall be
19 deposited in the tobacco settlement account created in this section
20 except as these moneys are sold or assigned under chapter 43.340 RCW.

21 (2) The tobacco settlement account is created in the state
22 treasury. Moneys in the tobacco settlement account may only be
23 transferred to the health services account for the purposes set forth
24 in RCW 43.72.900, (~~and~~) to the tobacco prevention and control account
25 for purposes set forth in this section, and to the public health
26 improvement account established under section 2 of this act.

27 (3) The tobacco prevention and control account is created in the
28 state treasury. The source of revenue for this account is moneys
29 transferred to the account from the tobacco settlement account,
30 investment earnings, donations to the account, and other revenues as
31 directed by law. Expenditures from the account are subject to
32 appropriation.

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