
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 3079

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Conway, Cody, Sells, Dickerson, Morrell, Simpson, Schual-Berke, Hasegawa, Chase and Santos)

READ FIRST TIME 02/08/06.

1 AN ACT Relating to health care services; adding a new section to
2 chapter 70.47 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.09 RCW; and
3 creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 70.47 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) The health care authority, in coordination with the department
8 of social and health services, shall prepare a report on basic health
9 plan enrollees under this chapter who are employed by any employer with
10 thirty or more employees who are either basic health plan enrollees or
11 medical assistance recipients. The report shall include the following
12 composite information:

- 13 (a) The number of employees by employer;
14 (b) The employee size of the employer;
15 (c) The number of employees by industry type;
16 (d) The number of hours worked by employees;
17 (e) The number of employees with multiple employers;
18 (f) The number of employees who were receiving any government
19 assistance prior to being employed;

1 (g) The length of time the employee has been employed;

2 (h) The number of employees who chose the basic health plan instead
3 of insurance coverage offered by their employer, and why they did so;
4 and

5 (i) The number of employees referred to the basic health plan by
6 their employer and the number referred by others, including public
7 agencies, relatives, or friends.

8 (2) The report must be structured so as to identify seasonal
9 variations that may impact the composite information in the report.

10 (3) The report must include recommendations from the department of
11 social and health services for strategies to reduce state costs
12 associated with providing medical assistance coverage to individuals
13 who are employed on a full-time and year-round basis. The report shall
14 be prepared in consultation with the health care authority and other
15 interested organizations. The following principles shall guide
16 development of the recommendations:

17 (a) Employers who have the financial ability to contribute to the
18 cost of health care coverage for their employees should provide such
19 coverage; and

20 (b) Reduction of state costs should not come at the expense of
21 depriving low-wage employees of health care coverage.

22 (4) The report must be delivered electronically to appropriate
23 committees of the senate and house of representatives annually,
24 commencing no later than November 15, 2006.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 74.09 RCW
26 to read as follows:

27 (1) The department of social and health services, in coordination
28 with the health care authority, shall prepare a report on recipients of
29 medical assistance under this chapter who are employed by any employer
30 with thirty or more employees who are either basic health plan
31 enrollees or medical assistance recipients. The report shall include
32 the following composite information:

33 (a) The number of employees by employer;

34 (b) The employee size of the employer;

35 (c) The number of employees by industry type;

36 (d) The number of hours worked by employees;

37 (e) The number of employees with multiple employers;

1 (f) The number of employees who were receiving any government
2 assistance prior to being employed;

3 (g) The length of time the employee has been employed;

4 (h) The number of employees who chose receipt of medical assistance
5 instead of insurance coverage offered by their employer, and why they
6 did so; and

7 (i) The number of employees referred to medical assistance by their
8 employer and the number referred by others, including public agencies,
9 relatives, or friends.

10 (2) The report must be structured so as to identify seasonal
11 variations that may impact the composite information in the report.

12 (3) The report must include recommendations from the department of
13 social and health services for strategies to reduce state costs
14 associated with providing medical assistance coverage to individuals
15 who are employed on a full-time and year-round basis. The report shall
16 be prepared in consultation with the health care authority and other
17 interested organizations. The following principles shall guide
18 development of the recommendations:

19 (a) Employers who have the financial ability to contribute to the
20 cost of health care coverage for their employees should provide such
21 coverage; and

22 (b) Reduction of state costs should not come at the expense of
23 depriving low-wage employees of health care coverage.

24 (4) The report must be delivered electronically to appropriate
25 committees of the senate and house of representatives annually,
26 commencing no later than November 15, 2006.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If specific funding for the purposes of this
28 act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not provided by
29 June 30, 2006, in the omnibus appropriations act, this act is null and
30 void.

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