

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## HB 1176

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As of March 8, 2011

**Title:** An act relating to providing licensed midwives online access to health care resources through the University of Washington health sciences library.

**Brief Description:** Providing licensed midwives online access to health care resources through the University of Washington health sciences library.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Green, Harris, Cody, Hinkle, Appleton, Roberts, Kenney and Kagi.

**Brief History:** Passed House: 2/14/11, 93-0.

**Committee Activity:** Higher Education & Workforce Development: 3/08/11.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

**Staff:** Aldo Melchiori (786-7439)

**Background:** The license fees for physicians, physician assistants, osteopathic physicians, osteopathic physician assistants, naturopaths, podiatrists, chiropractors, psychologists, registered nurses, optometrists, mental health counselors, massage therapists, clinical social workers, and East Asian medicine practitioners include up to a \$25 fee that is transferred to the University of Washington. The fee is used to fund online access to selected vital clinical resources, medical journals, decision support tools, and evidence-based reviews to these health care professionals. There are currently 109 licensed midwives who pay an annual licensing fee of \$500.

**Summary of Bill:** As part of their licensing fees, midwives must pay an additional annual fee of up to \$25 to fund online access to the University of Washington Health Services Library.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

[OFM requested ten-year cost projection pursuant to I-960.]

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

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

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

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:** PRO: Midwives should have been included when the fee was initially established. Midwives and their patients will benefit from the midwives access to the most recent information.

**Persons Testifying:** PRO: Representative Green, prime sponsor; Amber Ulvenes, Midwives Assn. of Washington State.