

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 6556

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As Reported by Senate Committee On:  
Health & Long-Term Care, February 2, 2012

**Title:** An act relating to establishing a diabetes action team public- private partnership.

**Brief Description:** Establishing a diabetes action team public-private partnership.

**Sponsors:** Senators Keiser and Regala.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Health & Long-Term Care: 2/02/12 [DPS-WM, w/oRec].

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

**Majority Report:** That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6556 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass and be referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

Signed by Senators Keiser, Chair; Conway, Vice Chair; Frockt, Kline and Pridemore.

**Minority Report:** That it be referred without recommendation.

Signed by Senators Becker, Ranking Minority Member; Carrell, Parlette and Pflug.

**Staff:** Kathleen Buchli (786-7488)

**Background:** Diabetes is a group of diseases characterized by high blood glucose levels that result from defects in the body's ability to produce and/or use insulin. Type 1 diabetes is usually diagnosed in children and young adults, and was previously known as juvenile diabetes. In type 1 diabetes, the body does not produce insulin. Type 2 diabetes is the most common form of diabetes. Millions of Americans have been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes, and many more are unaware they are at high risk. In type 2 diabetes, either the body does not produce enough insulin or the cells ignore the insulin. Pregnant women who have never had diabetes before but who have high blood sugar levels during pregnancy are said to have gestational diabetes. Based on recently announced diagnostic criteria for gestational diabetes, it is estimated that gestational diabetes affects 18 percent of pregnancies. Before people develop type 2 diabetes, they almost always have prediabetes, in which blood glucose levels are higher than normal but not yet high enough to be diagnosed as diabetes. There are 79 million people in the United States who have prediabetes. Recent research has shown that some long-term damage to the body, especially the heart and circulatory system, may already

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be occurring during prediabetes. Complications from diabetes include heart disease and stroke, high blood pressure, blindness, kidney disease, and damage to the nervous system.

**Summary of Bill (Recommended Substitute):** A Diabetes Action Team Public-Private Partnership (Partnership) is established to assess and determine the reach and impact of type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes, gestational diabetes, and prediabetes on the state. The diabetes action team consists of legislative, agency, and community membership. The Partnership must generate data and information related to the impact of diabetes on health insurance-related programs, health insurance financing efforts, employers, and public health efforts in Washington State. The Partnership must identify the financial impact and reach diabetes of all types is having on the state; assess the benefits of implemented programs and activities overseen by the state and other entities aimed at controlling and preventing diabetes; include a description of the level of coordination existing between the entities in the Partnership and the coordination existing between the state and nongovernmental entities. Information collected by the Partnership is limited to the diabetes information, data, and programs currently held by each group in the Partnership; new research and data collection is not required unless funding is provided.

The Diabetes Action Team Public-Private Partnership Account is created to support the Partnership. Revenues to the account may include gifts from the private sector, federal funds, and any appropriations made by the Legislature or other sources.

The Partnership is to report results to the Governor and the Legislature. The Partnership expires January 1, 2014.

**EFFECT OF CHANGES MADE BY HEALTH & LONG-TERM CARE COMMITTEE (Recommended Substitute):** Corrects a typographical error in the bill.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on January 31, 2012.

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

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

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony on Original Bill:** PRO: This bill should help the state and should not produce a fiscal note. It will help us determine the scope of diabetes in Washington. Diabetes results in a loss to the Washington economy of \$5 billion this year. Diabetes results in expenses to schools, a strain on families, and a financial impact on individuals. Knowing the extent of the problem will help to allocate resources and address expenses as they grow. More knowledge of diabetes leads to more treatment opportunities. The American Diabetes Association should be part of this discussion, and communities of color should be added to the Partnership.

**Persons Testifying:** PRO: Tom Boyer, Novo Nordisk; Linda Salo; Brian Beers; Joshua Salo; Laura Keller, American Diabetes Assn.