

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 2388

As Reported by House Committee On:
Appropriations Subcommittee on Health & Human Services

Title: An act relating to expenditures from the public health supplemental account.

Brief Description: Regarding expenditures from the public health supplemental account.

Sponsors: Representatives Morrell, Green and Ryu; by request of Department of Health.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Appropriations Subcommittee on Health & Human Services: 2/6/14 [DP].

Brief Summary of Bill

- Allows money from the Public Health Supplemental Account to be used to pay for or add permanent full-time equivalent staff.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 10 members: Representatives Morrell, Chair; Harris, Ranking Minority Member; Cody, Green, G. Hunt, Kagi, Ormsby, Ross, Schmick and Tharinger.

Staff: Mary Mulholland (786-7391).

Background:

In 2001 the Legislature authorized the Secretary of the Department of Health (DOH) to solicit and accept gifts, bequests, devises, or other funds from public and private sources. The Legislature stated its intent that gifts and other funds received by the DOH under the authority of the Secretary be used to expand or enhance public health programs, not to supplant government funds.

In 2001 the Legislature also created the Public Health Supplemental Account (Account). All receipts from gifts, bequests, devises, or other funds that the DOH determines will further the

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maintenance and improvement of Washington residents' health through the public health system must be deposited in the Account.

Money in the Account may be spent only after appropriation and may only be used to maintain or improve Washington residents' health through the public health system. Expenditures from the Account cannot be used to pay for or add permanent full-time equivalent staff positions.

The DOH is the administrator of the Account. The DOH must file an annual statement on the financial condition, transactions, and affairs of any program funded from the Account to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate.

Summary of Bill:

Expenditures from the Account may be used to pay for or add permanent full-time equivalent staff.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony:

(In support) The bill is an attempt to use money in a smart manner rather than require the Department of Health to hire non-permanent part-time staff to do small amounts of work. Money could be used for the work of permanent staff who can handle many things other than one particular piece of work.

(Opposed) None.

Persons Testifying: Representative Morrell, prime sponsor.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.