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**SENATE BILL 5546**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Conway, Zeiger, Darneille, Fortunato, Becker, and Nguyen

Read first time 01/23/19. Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a pilot project to establish an  
2 enhanced 211 drug line in certain counties; adding a new section to  
3 chapter 43.211 RCW; creating a new section; making an appropriation;  
4 and providing an expiration date.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that there is a  
7 state of opioid crisis in the south sound region. The legislature  
8 intends to create a pilot project that establishes an enhanced 211  
9 drug line to provide easy public access to referral for opioid and  
10 other drug crisis services in the south sound region by dialing the  
11 211 telephone number.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.211  
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 (1) A pilot project is established to create an enhanced 211 drug  
15 line in the WIN 211 south sound region, which encompasses Lewis,  
16 Pierce, and Thurston counties. The pilot project must start August 1,  
17 2019, and end July 1, 2021.

18 (2) The purpose of the pilot project is to provide residents of  
19 Lewis, Pierce, and Thurston counties with easy public access, ideally  
20 available twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week, through the

1 211 telephone service for referral for opioid and other drug crisis  
2 services.

3 (3) WIN 211 shall, in accordance with the purposes of the pilot  
4 project, create an enhanced 211 drug line in the south sound region,  
5 encompassing Lewis, Pierce, and Thurston counties, and administer and  
6 implement the pilot project in collaboration with one or more  
7 approved 211 service providers.

8 (4) (a) The department shall provide oversight and administrative  
9 support for the pilot project. No more than five percent of the  
10 funding provided for the pilot project may be used by the department  
11 for purposes of this subsection (4).

12 (b) The department, in collaboration with WIN 211, shall submit a  
13 report regarding the pilot project to the governor and the  
14 appropriate committees of the legislature. The report must be  
15 submitted by December 1, 2020, and must include a recommendation on  
16 whether the pilot project should be continued, expanded, or  
17 discontinued.

18 (5) This section expires July 1, 2021.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The sum of three hundred thousand dollars,  
20 or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the  
21 fiscal biennium ending June 30, 2021, from the general fund to the  
22 department of social and health services for the purposes of this  
23 act.

24 The appropriation in this section is subject to the following  
25 conditions and limitations:

26 (1) The appropriation is provided solely for operational support  
27 of the pilot program created by this act and implemented by the  
28 Washington information network 211 organization.

29 (2) Funding in this section is sufficient for the Washington  
30 information network 211 organization to hire, or provide grants to  
31 approved 211 service providers to hire, a technician and two  
32 telephone operators.

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