
HOUSE BILL 1346

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2021 Regular Session

By Representatives Sullivan, Lekanoff, and Pollet

Read first time 01/21/21. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to treatment and genetic testing for children
2 with seizures, neurological symptoms, and other physical symptoms;
3 adding a new section to chapter 18.57 RCW; adding a new section to
4 chapter 18.71 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 18.71A RCW; adding
5 a new section to chapter 18.79 RCW; adding a new section to chapter
6 48.43 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.05 RCW; adding a new
7 section to chapter 74.09 RCW; creating new sections; and providing an
8 effective date.

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

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** This act shall be known and cited as
11 Evelyn's law.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 18.57
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 An osteopathic physician and surgeon shall refer a person who is
15 18 years of age or younger to a children's specialty health care
16 facility that can provide specialized diagnostic services, including
17 genetic testing, unless the person is currently receiving care in
18 such a facility, if the person has experienced any neurological or
19 physical symptoms, including but not limited to seizures or missing

1 developmental milestones that an osteopathic physician and surgeon
2 determines requires a referral to a specialty health care facility.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 18.71
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 A physician shall refer a person who is 18 years of age or
6 younger to a children's specialty health care facility that can
7 provide specialized diagnostic services, including genetic testing,
8 unless the person is currently receiving care in such a facility, if
9 the person has experienced any neurological or physical symptoms,
10 including but not limited to seizures or missing developmental
11 milestones that a physician determines requires a referral to a
12 specialty health care facility.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 18.71A
14 RCW to read as follows:

15 A physician's assistant shall refer a person who is 18 years of
16 age or younger to a children's specialty health care facility that
17 can provide specialized diagnostic services, including genetic
18 testing, unless the person is currently receiving care in such a
19 facility, if the person has experienced any neurological or physical
20 symptoms, including but not limited to seizures or missing
21 developmental milestones that a physician's assistant determines
22 requires a referral to a specialty health care facility.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 18.79
24 RCW to read as follows:

25 An advanced registered nurse practitioner shall refer a person
26 who is 18 years of age or younger to a children's specialty health
27 care facility that can provide specialized diagnostic services,
28 including genetic testing, unless the person is currently receiving
29 care in such a facility, if the person has experienced any
30 neurological or physical symptoms, including but not limited to
31 seizures or missing developmental milestones that an advanced
32 registered nurse practitioner determines requires a referral to a
33 specialty health care facility.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 48.43
35 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1) For health plans issued or renewed on or after January 1,
2 2022, a health carrier must provide coverage for genetic testing
3 including up to a full genome panel as determined by the ordering
4 practitioner to identify potential causes of seizures, neurological
5 symptoms, or other physical symptoms as determined by the health care
6 provider in persons who are 18 years of age or younger.

7 (2) If the health plan imposes any deductible, genetic
8 testing benefits must be included for purposes of meeting the
9 deductible requirement. A health plan may subject coverage of genetic
10 testing to copayment or coinsurance requirements.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 41.05
12 RCW to read as follows:

13 (1) A health plan offered to public employees and their covered
14 dependents under this chapter issued or renewed on or after January
15 1, 2022, must provide coverage for genetic testing including up to a
16 full genome panel as determined by the ordering practitioner to
17 identify potential causes of seizures, neurological symptoms, or
18 other physical symptoms as determined by the health care provider in
19 persons who are 18 years of age or younger.

20 (2) If the health plan imposes any deductible, genetic
21 testing benefits must be included for purposes of meeting the
22 deductible requirement. A health plan may subject coverage of genetic
23 testing to copayment or coinsurance requirements.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** A new section is added to chapter 74.09
25 RCW to read as follows:

26 Upon initiation or renewal of a contract with the authority to
27 administer a medicaid managed care plan, a managed health care system
28 must provide coverage for genetic testing including up to a full
29 genome panel as determined by the ordering practitioner to identify
30 potential causes of seizures, neurological symptoms, or other
31 physical symptoms as determined by the health care provider in
32 persons who are 18 years of age or younger.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** Nothing in this act shall be construed to
34 limit or modify informed consent and parental consent requirements
35 for genetic testing or any other health care service.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** This act takes effect January 1, 2022.

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