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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1941**

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**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2024 Regular Session**

**By** House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Couture, Schmidt, Reed, Graham, Barnard, Kloba, Cheney, Riccelli, Pollet, Griffey, and Jacobsen)

READ FIRST TIME 01/31/24.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing for health home services for  
2 medicaid-eligible children with medically complex conditions; adding  
3 a new section to chapter 74.09 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

6 (a) Children with medical complexity deserve coordinated and  
7 effective care delivered in a high quality setting. Families should  
8 be able to focus solely on their child's needs and not waste precious  
9 time fighting a fragmented care system or the complexities of  
10 medicaid;

11 (b) In 2019, the federal government adopted the advancing care  
12 for exceptional kids act to address these concerns. This law created  
13 a new health home model that will coordinate prompt care for children  
14 with medically complex conditions, develop an individualized,  
15 comprehensive, pediatric, family-centered care plan, coordinate  
16 access to subspecialized care, and coordinate appropriate care with  
17 out-of-state providers; and

18 (c) The federal law provides health homes with a higher federal  
19 matching rate, making this proposal beneficial to Washington's  
20 children with medical complexities while also being financially  
21 prudent.

1           (2) The legislature, therefore, intends to actively support these  
2 medically complex children by taking the steps necessary to implement  
3 health homes in Washington.

4           NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 2.**   A new section is added to chapter 74.09  
5 RCW to read as follows:

6           By January 1, 2025, the authority shall submit a state plan  
7 amendment to the federal centers for medicare and medicaid services  
8 to allow medicaid-eligible children with medically complex conditions  
9 to voluntarily enroll in a health home as provided in section 3 of  
10 the medicaid services investment and accountability act of 2019 (P.L.  
11 116-16).

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