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**SENATE BILL 6226**

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**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2024 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Trudeau, Kuderer, Lovick, Nguyen, and Nobles

Read first time 01/15/24. Referred to Committee on Human Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating reporting requirements for the  
2 department of social and health service's office of fraud and  
3 accountability; and adding a new section to chapter 74.04 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 74.04  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) The legislature recognizes that disruption of systemic  
8 poverty requires data-informed policies and practices. The  
9 legislature further recognizes the importance of appropriate fiscal  
10 stewardship of public programs and resources. The legislature  
11 declares that policies regarding waste, fraud, and abuse should be  
12 rooted in evidence and should be administered in ways that promote  
13 racial equity. The legislature intends to create data reporting  
14 requirements regarding public service financial accountability to  
15 increase transparency within programs.

16 (2) To increase accountability and transparency, the office shall  
17 submit a report to the legislature by December 1, 2024, and  
18 biannually thereafter, and in compliance with RCW 43.01.036, that  
19 shall include at a minimum the following information:

20 (a) Racially disaggregated data on who is being investigated,  
21 compared with their percentage of the population on benefits;

1           (b) Financial data regarding expenditures on investigations,  
2 recovered funds, and impacts to programs and caseload;

3           (c) Findings regarding internal patterns of referrals which may  
4 be contributing to disparities; and

5           (d) Any other information deemed relevant by the department,  
6 including potential recommendations to address disparities in program  
7 policy and practice.

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