Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Health Care & Wellness Committee

HB 1802

Brief Description: Providing information about the human papillomavirus disease and vaccine.

Sponsors: Representatives Darneille, Kenney, Dickerson, Hankins, Linville, Cody, Roberts, Appleton, Schual-Berke, Walsh, Santos, Wallace, Haigh, Simpson, Green, Clibborn, Warnick, Rolfes, Morrell, Pettigrew, Bailey, Lantz, Eddy, Sommers, Kessler, Kagi, Skinner, McDonald, Chase, Hudgins, Hasegawa, Pedersen, Ericks, Goodman and Moeller.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Requires, at the beginning of the school year and starting with sixth grade entry, public and private schools to give information prepared by the Department of Health about human papillomavirus disease and its vaccine.

Hearing Date: 2/7/07

Staff: Chris Cordes (786-7103).

Background:

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is the name of a group of viruses that includes more than 100 strains or types. According to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), more than 30 of these viruses are sexually transmitted. These viruses can infect various parts of the body, including the genital areas of men and women and the linings of women's vagina and cervix. The CDC reports that most people who become infected will not have symptoms, but some will develop genital warts or pre-cancerous changes in the infected body part. However, about 10 of the 30 identified genital HPV types can lead, in rare cases, to development of cervical cancer. CDC reports indicate that persistent infection with high-risk types of HPV is the main risk factor for cervical cancer. For 2006, the American Cancer Society estimated that 9,700 American women would develop invasive cervical cancer and that about 3,700 women would die from the disease.

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In 2006, the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (Committee) recommended the first vaccine developed to prevent cervical cancer caused by certain types of HPV. According to the Committee, the vaccine protects against four HPV types which cause about 70 percent of cervical cancers and 90 percent of genital warts, but does not treat existing HPV infections, genital warts, precancers, or cancers. The federal Food and Drug Administration has licensed the vaccine for use in females ages nine to 26 years.

This HPV vaccine is given in a series of three vaccinations over a six-month period at a retail cost of \$360. The Committee recommended the vaccine for 11 to 12 year-old girls, and for 13 to 26 year-old girls and women who have not received or completed the vaccine series.

Summary of Bill:

At the beginning of every school year, starting with sixth grade entry, all public and private schools in the state must provide parents and guardians with information about human papillomavirus (HPV) disease and its vaccine. The information must include:

- the disease's causes and symptoms and where more information and vaccinations may be obtained; and
- current recommendations from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding the vaccine and where the vaccine can be received.

These provisions do not require the Department of Health (DOH) to provide the HPV vaccination to children or create a private right of action.

The DOH must prepare the informational materials and consult with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Preliminary fiscal note available.

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