Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Health Care & Wellness Committee

SSB 6791

Brief Description: Clarifying permitted uses of moneys currently collected under the county legislative authority sales and use tax for chemical dependency or mental health treatment programs and services or therapeutic courts.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Human Services & Corrections (originally sponsored by Senators Hargrove, Stevens and Marr).

Brief Summary of Substitute Bill

• Clarifies the uses of a sales and use tax of one tenth of one percent for the purpose of providing new or expanded chemical dependency or mental health treatment services and for the operation of new or expanded therapeutic court programs.

Hearing Date: 2/25/08

Staff: Dave Knutson (786-7146).

Background:

In 2005 the Legislature passed legislation authorizing county legislative authorities to impose a sales and use tax of one tenth of one percent for the purpose of providing new or expanded chemical dependency or mental health treatment services and for the operation of new or expanded therapeutic court programs.

Summary of Bill:

This bill clarifies that monies collected under the sales and use tax authorized by the Legislature may be used for the operation or delivery of programs and services. Monies collected by the sales and use tax may be used to replace lapsed federal funding previously provided for the operation or delivery of chemical dependency or mental health treatment services and programs.

Appropriation: None.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

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

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