

HB 1071-S - DIGEST

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Declares that, in order to provide students with the opportunity to become responsible citizens, to contribute to their own economic well-being and to that of their families and communities, and to enjoy productive and satisfying lives, the state recognizes the importance that access to appropriate health services and improved health brings to the children of Washington state. In addition, fully immunized children are themselves protected, and in turn protect others, from contracting communicable diseases.

Declares that, consistent with the goals established in RCW 74.09.402, the department shall design and administer a program to provide affordable health care coverage to children under the age of nineteen who reside in Washington state and whose family income at the time of enrollment is not greater than two hundred fifty percent of the federal poverty level as adjusted for family size and determined annually by the federal department of health and human services. In administering the program, the department shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure the receipt of federal financial participation under the medical assistance program, as codified at Title XIX of the federal social security act, the state children's health insurance program, as codified at Title XXI of the federal social security act, and any other federal funding sources that are now available or may become available in the future.

Finds that parents have a responsibility to: (1) Enroll their children in affordable health coverage;

(2) Ensure that their children receive appropriate well-child preventive care;

(3) Link their child with a medical home; and

(4) Understand and act upon the health benefits of good nutrition and physical activity.

Directs the department, in collaboration with the department of health, health plans, local public health jurisdictions, children's health care providers, parents, and other purchasers, to identify explicit performance measures that indicate that a child has an established and effective medical home, such as: (1) Childhood immunization rates;

(2) Well child care utilization rates, including the use of validated, structured developmental assessment tools that include behavioral and oral health screening;

(3) Care management for children with chronic illnesses;

(4) Emergency room utilization; and

(5) Preventive oral health service utilization.

Declares that it is the goal of Washington state to ensure that: (1) By 2010, all K-12 districts have school

health advisory committees that advise school administration and school board members on policies, environmental changes, and programs needed to support healthy food choice and physical activity and childhood fitness.

(2) By 2010, only healthy food and beverages shall be available on school campuses. Minimal standards for available food items, except food served as part of a United States department of agriculture meal program, include: (a) not more than thirty-five percent of its total calories from fat; (b) not more than ten percent of its total calories from saturated fat; and (c) not more than thirty-five percent of its total weight or fifteen grams sugar per food item composed of sugar, including naturally occurring and added sugar.

(3) By 2010, all students in grades one through eight should have at least thirty minutes of quality physical education per school day.

(4) By 2010, all student health and fitness instruction shall be conducted by appropriately certified instructors.

(5) By 2010, any district waiver or exemption policy from physical education requirements for high school students shall be based upon meeting both health and fitness curricula concepts as well as relevant and adequate physical activity, but should acknowledge students' interest in pursuing their academic interests.

Establishes a select interim legislative task force on comprehensive school health reform. The task force shall review and make recommendations on policies, environmental changes, and programs needed to support healthy schools, including but not limited to food choice, physical activity, and childhood fitness. The task force shall also review the delivery of health care services in the schools by school personnel providing health services. The task force may establish technical advisory committees related to nutrition, fitness, and child health.

Requires the task force to submit its findings and recommendations to the appropriate committees of the senate and house of representatives by October 1, 2008.

Repeals RCW 74.09.405, 74.09.415, 74.09.425, 74.09.435, and 74.09.450.