Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Health Care & Wellness Committee

HB 2643

Brief Description: Concerning purchase of care in institutions for mental diseases.

Sponsors: Representatives Green, Hinkle, Dickerson, Springer, Goodman and Moeller.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Specifies that the Department of Social and Health Services' authority to purchase care in mental health institutions includes the purchase of inpatient mental health services and inpatient hospital detoxification of acute alcohol or other drug intoxication services.

Hearing Date: 1/30/12

Staff: Chris Blake (786-7392).

Background:

The Medicaid program pays for inpatient hospital detoxification of acute alcohol or other drug intoxications for eligible clients. The care must be provided in either a detoxification unit in a hospital that has a detoxification provider agreement with the Department of Social and Health Services or an acute hospital that provides the care in a medical unit.

Summary of Bill:

The Department of Social and Health Services' authority to purchase care in mental health institutions is clarified to specify that the authority includes the purchase of inpatient mental health services and inpatient hospital detoxification of acute alcohol or other drug intoxication services.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 24, 2012.

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.

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