
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1139

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 Regular Session

By House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Roberts, Walsh, Green, Moscoso, Jenkins, Lias, Fitzgibbon, Morrell, Ryu, Riccelli, and Santos)

READ FIRST TIME 02/12/13.

1 AN ACT Relating to public notification of local health conditions;
2 adding a new section to chapter 43.70 RCW; adding a new section to
3 chapter 70.05 RCW; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.70 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) By August 1, 2013, the department shall establish a temporary
8 work group of public health officials, health communication experts,
9 and organizations representing health care providers.

10 (2) By December 31, 2013, the temporary work group shall report to
11 the appropriate legislative committees its recommendations for
12 implementing best practices to communicate significant health risks to
13 the public, including special emphasis on vulnerable populations.

14 (3) This section expires August 1, 2014.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 70.05 RCW
16 to read as follows:

17 (1) Each local board of health may adopt a community health alert
18 notification plan that establishes the method by which the local health

1 department, health district, or combined city-county health department
2 keeps the public who reside in its jurisdiction informed of significant
3 health risks to the public.

4 (2) If a local board of health adopts a community health alert
5 notification plan, the plan must be made available to the public on the
6 web site of each local public health department, health district, or
7 combined city-county health department.

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