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HOUSE BILL 2737

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State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2014 Regular Session

By Representatives Kagi, Sawyer, Smith, Ryu, Gregerson, Goodman, and Freeman

Read first time 01/29/14. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & Human Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to fetal alcohol exposure; amending RCW 70.96A.510;  
2 adding new sections to chapter 66.28 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that fetal alcohol  
5 exposure can cause serious mental and physical disorders and  
6 disabilities in children. These disorders are preventable if a mother  
7 does not drink during pregnancy. With the advent of private alcohol  
8 retailers, there is now increased access to alcohol. The legislature  
9 intends to require signage warning women about the dangers of fetal  
10 alcohol exposure in all stores selling alcohol.

11 (2) The legislature further finds that by collecting evidence-based  
12 practices around the identification, prevention, and interventions for  
13 fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, the number of affected individuals  
14 can decrease and those who are affected can improve their lives.  
15 Finally, by convening a work group of stakeholders, the legislature can  
16 become better informed about steps that can be taken to appropriately  
17 address fetal alcohol exposure.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 66.28 RCW  
2 to read as follows:

3        (1) At a minimum, premises that serve alcohol for on-premises  
4 consumption, grocery store licensees, beer and wine specialty shop  
5 licensees, breweries, wineries, and taverns shall post in a conspicuous  
6 place easily seen by patrons a printed sign at least eighteen inches by  
7 twenty-four inches in size, with letters at least two inches high,  
8 warning that consumption of alcohol during pregnancy can cause birth  
9 defects.

10        (2) This section does not apply to self-service minibars in hotel  
11 guest rooms.

12        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    A new section is added to chapter 66.28 RCW  
13 to read as follows:

14        The board shall have the authority to adopt rules to carry out  
15 section 2 of this act in a manner that will increase the visibility of  
16 signage. The contents of section 2 of this act provide the minimum  
17 requirements regarding warning that consumption of alcohol during  
18 pregnancy can cause birth defects, but the board may adopt additional  
19 rules beyond those minimum requirements to ensure that customers  
20 observe these warnings.

21        **Sec. 4.**    RCW 70.96A.510 and 1995 c 54 s 3 are each amended to read  
22 as follows:

23        (1) The department of social and health services, the department  
24 of health, the department of corrections, and the office of the  
25 superintendent of public instruction shall execute an interagency  
26 agreement to ensure the coordination of identification, prevention, and  
27 intervention programs for ~~((children))~~ individuals who have fetal  
28 alcohol exposure, and for women who are at high risk of having children  
29 with fetal alcohol exposure.

30        The interagency agreement shall provide a process for community  
31 advocacy groups to participate in the review and development of  
32 identification, prevention, and intervention programs administered or  
33 contracted for by the agencies executing this agreement.

34        (2) The interagency agreement shall provide for a work group  
35 cochaired by the department of social and health services, the  
36 University of Washington fetal alcohol syndrome diagnostic and

1 prevention network, and the University of Washington fetal alcohol and  
2 drug unit to address fetal alcohol exposure issues related to  
3 identification, prevention, and intervention. This work group shall  
4 include the department of health, the department of corrections, the  
5 office of the superintendent of public instruction, and other  
6 interested organizations identified by the department of social and  
7 health services, the University of Washington fetal alcohol syndrome  
8 diagnostic and prevention network, and the University of Washington  
9 fetal alcohol and drug unit.

10 (3) By December 1, 2014, the work group shall develop  
11 recommendations and provide a report to the appropriate committees of  
12 the legislature relating to:

13 (a) Identification of evidence-based practices for early screening  
14 and diagnosis of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders;

15 (b) Identification of evidence-based practices for prevention of  
16 fetal alcohol spectrum disorders;

17 (c) Identification of evidence-based practices for interventions  
18 that can be used with individuals experiencing fetal alcohol spectrum  
19 disorders; and

20 (d) Recommendations of policy changes that would improve the  
21 identification, prevention, or interventions related to fetal alcohol  
22 spectrum disorders.

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