
SENATE BILL 5720

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senator West

Read first time 02/02/95. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to childhood immunizations; adding a new section to
2 chapter 43.20 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.70 RCW; and
3 creating new sections.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** INTENT--DECLARATION. The legislature finds
6 that:

7 (1) There has been an increase in the number of children
8 contracting vaccine preventable infectious diseases;

9 (2) This trend has occurred despite the availability of safe and
10 effective immunizations which can prevent these disabling and life-
11 threatening diseases;

12 (3) Parents and guardians of children are often unaware of the need
13 for immunizations, the appropriate age to receive such immunizations,
14 and the public health risks of the failure to be properly immunized.

15 The legislature declares that it is in the public health interest
16 of the people of the state of Washington that all adults and children
17 should be appropriately immunized.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.20 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 STATE BOARD OF HEALTH--IMMUNIZATION SCHEDULE. (1) The state board
4 of health shall adopt rules by September 1, 1995, that establish a
5 schedule of appropriate immunizations against vaccine preventable
6 infectious diseases for adults and children. The schedule shall
7 include the type of immunization recommended and the appropriate age
8 for receiving vaccines. The state board of health may modify by rule
9 the recommended immunization schedule. In implementing this section
10 the state board of health shall consider recommended immunization
11 schedules developed by such entities as the American academy of
12 pediatrics and the United States public health service.

13 (2) The state board of health shall make immunization schedules
14 required by this section available to the secretary of the department
15 of health and the general public no later than October 1, 1995.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.70 RCW
17 to read as follows:

18 IMMUNIZATION INCENTIVE PROGRAM. (1) The department of health shall
19 establish an immunization incentive program for the purpose of
20 providing financial incentives to local health jurisdictions to improve
21 immunization rates among children under four years of age. The program
22 shall provide a twenty thousand dollar per year bonus to local health
23 jurisdictions that meet the requirements of this section.

24 (2) The department of health, in consultation with each local
25 health jurisdiction, shall establish the current rate of immunization
26 compliance in each of the state's local health jurisdictions for
27 children under four years of age. The rate shall be based upon the
28 immunization schedules adopted by the state board of health under this
29 chapter. This rate shall be known as the base rate.

30 (3) The department of health shall award each local health
31 jurisdiction the sum of twenty thousand dollars for each year the local
32 health jurisdiction increases the compliance rate by five percent. The
33 jurisdiction shall receive an additional fifty thousand dollars for
34 immunization compliance rates when ninety-eight percent of children
35 under four years of age in the jurisdiction have complied with the
36 state board of health recommended immunization schedule.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** CAPTIONS. Captions as used in this act
2 constitute no part of the law.

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