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SENATE BILL 6604

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By Senators Wojahn, Moyer, Winsley and Rasmussen

Read first time 01/19/96. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to immunization; creating new sections; making  
2 appropriations; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

5 (1) Parents and guardians of children are often unaware of the need  
6 for timely immunizations and the public health risks of the failure to  
7 be properly immunized.

8 (2) Physicians often lack up-to-date information on the status of  
9 their patients' immunizations, which increases the risks of over and  
10 under-immunization that can be costly both in terms of health risks and  
11 dollars.

12 (3) Child profile projects in four counties have been created to  
13 address these concerns and provide the information needed to develop a  
14 state-wide tracking and reminder system.

15 The legislature declares that it is in the public health interest  
16 of the people of the state of Washington that all children be properly  
17 immunized and that a plan be developed to create a state-wide child  
18 profile system for tracking data and reminders for immunizations, thus

1 enabling the state to reach the ninety percent immunization rate set  
2 forth in the public health improvement plan.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The secretary of health shall develop a plan  
4 for analyzing the progress of the four current child profile counties  
5 and making recommendations for expanding the project to other counties.  
6 The plan for expansion must take into account the current immunization  
7 rate for children between the ages of birth and two, goals set by the  
8 local health departments in conjunction with their own public health  
9 improvement plan work plans, and estimated population growth. The  
10 secretary shall submit recommendations to the appropriate standing  
11 committees of the senate and the house of representatives on the  
12 proposed timeline for expansion of child profile, with a goal of state-  
13 wide coverage.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The sum of three hundred sixty thousand  
15 dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for  
16 the biennium ending June 30, 1997, from the general fund to the  
17 department of health for the sole purpose of stabilizing the four  
18 existing child profile counties.

19 (2) The sum of . . . . dollars, or as much thereof as may be  
20 necessary, is appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 1997, from  
21 the general fund to the department of health for the purposes of  
22 development of a state-wide immunization tracking and reminder system.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
24 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
25 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take  
26 effect immediately.

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