
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6629

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care (originally sponsored by Senator Roach)

Read first time 02/02/96.

1 AN ACT Relating to regulation of body piercing; adding a new
2 chapter to Title 18 RCW; creating a new section; and providing an
3 effective date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Unless the context clearly requires
6 otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this
7 chapter.

8 (1) "Body piercer" means a person who pierces the skin and inserts
9 an object for figurative or cosmetic purposes. Body piercing does not
10 include surgery for medical or nursing purposes.

11 (2) "Body piercing facility" means a room, space, or any part
12 thereof, where body piercing takes place.

13 (3) "Department" means the department of health.

14 (4) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department of health.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) All body piercers shall pay a fee to
16 register with the secretary and pay an annual renewal registration fee
17 determined by the secretary as provided in RCW 43.70.250 on or before
18 the body piercer's birth anniversary date. Registration shall be

1 renewed for a period of one year or longer in the discretion of the
2 secretary.

3 (2) All body piercing facilities shall pay a fee to register with
4 the secretary, and pay an annual renewal registration fee determined by
5 the secretary as provided in RCW 43.70.250 on or before the anniversary
6 date of the first registration.

7 (3) The fee for registration shall cover expenses incurred by the
8 department for administering the registration program.

9 (4) The department shall adopt those rules necessary to implement
10 this chapter, including rules establishing sanitation standards for
11 body piercing facilities and providing inspection procedures to be
12 followed by local health departments.

13 (5) The department shall maintain a registry of body piercers and
14 body piercing facilities and provide a copy of the register upon
15 request to any body piercer, body piercing facility, law enforcement
16 agency, government agency, or member of the public. The department
17 shall provide an updated copy of the registry on a regular basis to the
18 state board of health and all local health departments. The registry
19 shall include a record of every sanitation violation reported by a
20 local health department.

21 (6) Nothing in this chapter may be construed to prohibit or
22 restrict the practice of a profession by a person who is either
23 registered, certified, licensed, or similarly regulated under the laws
24 of this state who is performing services within the person's authorized
25 scope of practice.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** In addition to any other authority provided
27 by law, the secretary has the authority to:

28 (1) Appoint an advisory committee, if necessary; and

29 (2) Establish forms and procedures necessary to administer this
30 chapter.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Each local health department, as defined in
32 RCW 70.05.010, shall regularly inspect the body piercing facilities
33 within its jurisdiction in accordance with rules adopted by the
34 department. If a local health department finds that a body piercing
35 facility has violated the sanitation standards adopted by the
36 department, the local health department shall immediately notify the
37 department of the violation.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The secretary of the department of health
2 may take those steps necessary to ensure that sections 2 through 4 of
3 this act are implemented on the effective date of this section.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 2 through 4 of this act shall take
5 effect July 1, 1996.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Sections 1 through 4 of this act shall
7 constitute a new chapter in Title 18 RCW.

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