
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1616

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By House Committee on Children & Family Services (originally sponsored by Representatives Cooke, Tokuda, Dyer, Cody, Sheahan, Regala, Talcott, Skinner, Murray, Carrell, Gombosky, Ogden, Carlson, Dickerson, Wood, Conway, Anderson, Costa, Cooper, Butler, Cole and O'Brien)

Read first time 03/03/97.

1 AN ACT Relating to healthy children and families; amending RCW
2 74.09.790; adding a new section to chapter 74.09 RCW; creating new
3 sections; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the maternity
6 care access system has improved birth outcomes, contributing to the
7 growth of a healthy and productive society. The legislature further
8 finds that enabling the maternity care access system to continue
9 serving some young children and their parents until the child's third
10 birthday will maintain and strengthen at-risk families.

11 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.09.790 and 1993 c 407 s 9 are each amended to read
12 as follows:

13 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
14 this section apply throughout RCW 74.09.760 through 74.09.820 and
15 74.09.510:

16 (1) "At-risk eligible person" means an eligible person and her
17 child up to age three determined by the department to need special
18 assistance in applying for and obtaining maternity care, including

1 pregnant women who are substance abusers, pregnant and parenting
2 adolescents, pregnant minority women, and other eligible persons who
3 need special assistance in gaining access to the maternity care system.

4 (2) "County authority" means the board of county commissioners,
5 county council, or county executive having the authority to participate
6 in the maternity care access program or its designee. Two or more
7 county authorities may enter into joint agreements to fulfill the
8 requirements of this chapter.

9 (3) "Department" means the department of social and health
10 services.

11 (4) "Eligible person" means a woman in need of maternity care or
12 a child, who is eligible for medical assistance pursuant to this
13 chapter or the prenatal care program administered by the department.

14 (5) "Maternity care services" means inpatient and outpatient
15 medical care, case management, and support services necessary during
16 prenatal, delivery, ~~((and))~~ postpartum periods up to the child's third
17 birthday.

18 (6) "Maternity support services" means, at least, public health
19 nursing assessment and follow-up, health and childbirth education,
20 psychological assessment and counseling, outreach services, nutritional
21 assessment and counseling, needed vitamin and nonprescriptive drugs,
22 transportation, parent education, family planning services, and child
23 care. Support services may include alcohol and substance abuse
24 treatment for pregnant women who are addicted or at risk of being
25 addicted to alcohol or drugs to the extent funds are made available for
26 that purpose. Support services for at-risk children and their families
27 may include public health nursing assessment and follow-up, health and
28 parent education, psychological assessment and counseling, outreach
29 services, case management, nutritional assessment and counseling, and
30 transportation.

31 (7) "Family planning services" means planning the number of one's
32 children by use of contraceptive techniques.

33 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 74.09 RCW
34 to read as follows:

35 The department shall phase in the coverage of at-risk children by
36 providing services to children up to age one within twelve months of
37 the effective date of this section, providing services to children up
38 to age two within twenty-four months of the effective date of this

1 section, and providing services to children up to age three within
2 thirty-six months of the effective date of this section.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The department shall provide the services
4 authorized under this act within the amount authorized by the
5 legislature in the biennial operating budget. The department shall
6 establish waiting lists, establish priority rankings, deny services,
7 and otherwise limit the availability of services to operate the program
8 within the appropriated amount.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate
10 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
11 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
12 July 1, 1997.

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