
HOUSE BILL 3134

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1998 Regular Session

By Representatives Skinner, Cody and Conway

Read first time 03/02/98. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to creation of the office of women's health; adding
2 a new section to chapter 41.06 RCW; and adding a new chapter to Title
3 43 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** There is created an office of state
6 government to be known as the office of women's health. The office is
7 vested with all powers and duties created in this chapter and such
8 other powers and duties as may be authorized by law.

9 The office shall also perform the following functions:

10 (1) Serve as an advocate and provide an articulate focus for the
11 particular health needs of women and disseminate information to the
12 public regarding health services available to women in the state;

13 (2) Collect and maintain data concerning specific women's health
14 conditions;

15 (3) Promote the development and implementation of education and
16 prevention programs which address at least the following women's health
17 topics:

18 (a) Breast cancer detection;

19 (b) Cervical cancer prevention and detection;

- 1 (c) Osteoporosis early diagnosis and prevention;
- 2 (d) Heart disease prevention;
- 3 (e) Nutrition and exercise as related to disease prevention;
- 4 (f) Contraception;
- 5 (g) Sexually transmitted disease prevention;
- 6 (h) Prenatal care;
- 7 (i) Menopause; and
- 8 (j) Fertility;

9 (4) Analyze and evaluate all budget requests relating to services
10 which affect women's health from departments or agencies within all
11 executive offices and make recommendations to the secretary of human
12 services and other appropriate secretaries regarding coordination and
13 approval of such budget requests;

14 (5) Seek, apply for, and encourage the use of all federal funds for
15 women's health research and facilitate the coordination of federal,
16 state, and local policies concerning women's health;

17 (6) Determine the extent and availability of federal grants open to
18 Washington research facilities and other Washington groups researching
19 or promoting awareness of conditions unique to or prevalent among
20 women;

21 (7) Disseminate information concerning and encourage application
22 for available federal grants for women's health research and education;

23 (8) Provide information and referral to women seeking health
24 services;

25 (9) Offer recommendations concerning rules and policy affecting
26 women's health education and research;

27 (10) Prepare and submit a report to the governor annually. Such
28 report shall include, but not be limited to, a review of the status of
29 women's health research and policy affecting women's health,
30 recommendations for priorities for the development and coordination of
31 women's health education, and prevention programs.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The executive head and appointing authority
33 of the office is the director. The director shall be appointed by the
34 governor, with the consent of the senate, and shall serve at the
35 pleasure of the governor. The director shall be paid a salary to be
36 fixed by the governor in accordance with RCW 43.03.040. If a vacancy
37 occurs in the position while the senate is not in session, the governor

1 shall make a temporary appointment until the next meeting of the
2 senate.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 41.06 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 In addition to the exemptions under RCW 41.06.070, the provisions
6 of this chapter shall not apply in the office of women's health to the
7 director, the director's personal secretary and the deputy director.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act constitute a
9 new chapter in Title 43 RCW.

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