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SENATE BILL 5712

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State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Senators Deccio, Patterson, Wood, Wojahn, Winsley, Fairley, Long, Fraser, Horn, Kohl, Swecker, Franklin, Brown, Kline and Rasmussen

Read first time 02/10/97. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

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 a new  
3 section; 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 up to age three, who is eligible for medical assistance  
13 pursuant to this chapter (~~((or the prenatal care program administered by~~  
14 ~~the department))~~).

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

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

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

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

32 The department shall phase in the coverage of children under the  
33 revised federal maternity care access waiver by providing services to  
34 children up to age one within twelve months of the effective date of  
35 this section, providing services to children up to age two within  
36 twenty-four months of the effective date of this section, and providing  
37 services to children up to age three within thirty-six months of the  
38 effective date of this section.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.**    This act is necessary for the immediate  
2    preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
3    state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
4    July 1, 1997.

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