S-1525.1	

SENATE BILL 6020

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2001 Regular Session

By Senators Thibaudeau, Deccio and Costa

Read first time 02/14/2001. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to access to dental care; and creating a new
- 2 section.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that access to
- 5 preventive and restorative oral health services by low-income children
- 6 is currently restricted by complex regulatory, financial, cultural, and
- 7 geographic barriers that have resulted in a large number of children
- 8 suffering unnecessarily from dental disease. The legislature also
- 9 finds that very early exposure to oral health care can reverse this
- 10 disease in many cases, thereby significantly reducing costs of
- 11 providing dental services to low-income populations.
- 12 It is the intent of the legislature to address the problem of poor
- 13 access to oral health care by providing for school-based sealant
- 14 programs through the endorsement of dental hygienists.

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