
SENATE BILL 5839

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Senators Carlyle, Cleveland, Chase, Kuderer, Conway, Darneille, Frockt, Ranker, Saldaña, Rolfes, Hasegawa, Pedersen, McCoy, Takko, Nelson, and Hunt

Read first time 02/16/17. Referred to Committee on Human Services, Mental Health & Housing.

1 AN ACT Relating to repealing a tax preference for prescription
2 drug warehousing firms to invest in rural and high-need area opioid
3 use disorder treatment and support infrastructures; adding new
4 sections to chapter 70.12 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 82.32
5 RCW; repealing RCW 82.04.272; and declaring an emergency.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 70.12
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 (1)(a) The secretary of health, in coordination with the health
10 care authority and the University of Washington's alcohol and drug
11 abuse institute, must develop a grant program to provide funding to
12 accountable communities of health, the Dr. Robert Bree Collaborative,
13 the University of Washington, Washington State University, and the
14 department of health.

15 (b) The grant program may only offer grants in the amount
16 available in the opioid use disorder treatment account.

17 (c) The secretary of health must also develop a reporting
18 requirement for grantees. Grantees must report on how grant moneys
19 are used and the benefits derived from the grant moneys.

1 (2) Grants provided under this section may be provided to
2 programs that are focused on increasing access to medication-assisted
3 treatment, including programs that:

4 (a) Increase education and support for medication-assisted
5 treatment providers, including physicians, advanced registered nurse
6 practitioners, and physician assistants;

7 (b) Link mental health supports with primary care;

8 (c) Use care coordinators who can assist the patient in
9 connecting to mental health care and primary care providers and also
10 ensure that the mental health care and primary care providers are
11 communicating about individual patient progress and needs;

12 (d) Use peer support;

13 (e) Provide in-office support to primary care treatment offices;

14 (f) Allow primary care offices in rural areas to share resources
15 and staff;

16 (g) Are developed in accountable communities of health that are
17 able to demonstrate a lack of treatment opportunities and a high rate
18 of deaths associated with opioid drug use;

19 (h) Develop or implement evidence-based best practices to treat
20 opiate use disorders;

21 (i) Use data to detect opioid misuse/abuse, improve prescribing
22 practices, and monitor morbidity and mortality; and

23 (j) The secretary determines meets the goals of increasing access
24 to medication-assisted treatment.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 70.12
26 RCW to read as follows:

27 The opioid use disorder treatment account is created in the
28 custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from the tax on
29 warehousing and selling prescription drugs as estimated by section 3
30 of this act must be deposited into the account. Expenditures from the
31 account may be used only to provide grants to qualifying accountable
32 communities of health and the University of Washington and Washington
33 State University as provided in section 1 of this act. Only the
34 secretary of health or the secretary's designee may authorize
35 expenditures from the account. The account is subject to allotment
36 procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not
37 required for expenditures.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 82.32
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 (1) By the last workday of the second calendar quarter, the state
4 treasurer must transfer the amount specified in subsection (2) of
5 this section from the general fund to the opioid use disorder
6 treatment account under section 2 of this act. The first transfer
7 under this subsection (1) must occur by June 30, 2017.

8 (2) By June 15th of each year, the department must estimate the
9 increase to the general fund due to the repeal of the tax preference
10 in section 4 of this act and notify the state treasurer of the
11 estimated amount.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** RCW 82.04.272 (Tax on warehousing and
13 reselling prescription drugs) and 2013 c 19 s 127, 2003 c 168 s 401,
14 & 1998 c 343 s 1 are each repealed.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate
16 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
17 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes
18 effect immediately.

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