
HOUSE BILL 1408

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representatives Sommers, Leonard, Cooke, Thibaudeau, Brough, Riley, Wolfe, Thomas, Karahalios, Ballasiotes, Forner, Long, Schmidt, Flemming, Silver, Eide, Wood, Shin, Linville, R. Meyers, J. Kohl, Ogden, Valle, Ludwig, Bray, Basich, Wineberry, Jones, Roland, Mielke, Wang, Heavey, Pruitt, Brown, Dellwo, Scott, Rayburn, King, Cothorn, Kessler, G. Cole, Rust, Springer, Kremen, Johanson, L. Johnson, Locke, Sheldon, Morris, H. Myers, Jacobsen and Anderson

Read first time 01/27/93. Referred to Committee on Human Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to teen pregnancy prevention; adding a new chapter
2 to Title 70 RCW; creating a new section; making appropriations; and
3 providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** FINDINGS AND STATE POLICY. (1) The
6 legislature finds that:

7 (a) Each year in Washington approximately ten percent of all
8 teenage girls become pregnant. The number of teen pregnancies has
9 increased fifty percent in the last decade;

10 (b) The public cost of adolescent pregnancy is substantial. Eighty
11 percent of teen prenatal care and deliveries are publicly funded. Over
12 fifty percent of the women on public assistance became mothers as
13 teenagers; and

14 (c) The personal costs of adolescent pregnancy can be socially and
15 economically overwhelming. These too young mothers are often unable to
16 finish high school. Their economic potential is diminished, their
17 probability of dependence on public assistance increases, and their
18 children are more likely to grow up in poverty. The cycle of teen

1 mothers raising children in poverty jeopardizes their future
2 educational opportunity and economic viability of future generations.

3 (2) The legislature therefore declares that in the interest of
4 health, welfare, and economics, it is the policy of the state to reduce
5 the incidence of unplanned teen pregnancy. To reduce the rate of teen
6 pregnancy in Washington, the legislature hereby:

7 (a) Establishes four-year projects to prevent teen pregnancy;

8 (b) Initiates a teen pregnancy prevention media campaign;

9 (c) Increases funding for family planning education, outreach, and
10 services; and

11 (d) Expands medicaid eligibility for postpartum family planning
12 services.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** DEFINITIONS. Unless the context clearly
14 requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout
15 this chapter.

16 (1) "Community" means an individual political subdivision of the
17 state, a group of such political subdivisions, or a geographic area
18 within a political subdivision.

19 (2) "Department" means the department of health.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION PROJECTS. There
21 is established in the department a program to coordinate and fund
22 community-based teen pregnancy prevention projects. Selection of
23 projects shall be made competitively based upon compliance with the
24 requirements of sections 4 and 5 of this act. To the extent
25 practicable, the projects shall be geographically distributed
26 throughout the state. Criteria shall be established by the department
27 in consultation with other state agencies and groups involved in teen
28 pregnancy prevention.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION PROJECTS--
30 REQUIREMENTS. (1) Each project shall be designed to reduce the
31 incidence of unplanned teen pregnancy in the defined community, and may
32 include preteens.

33 (2) At least fifty percent of the funding for teen pregnancy
34 prevention projects shall be community matching funds provided by
35 private or public entities. In-kind contributions such as, but not

1 limited to, staff, materials, supplies, or physical facilities may be
2 considered as all or part of the funding provided by the communities.

3 (3) Each project shall be evaluated solely on the rate by which the
4 teen birth rate in the community is reduced, measured from the rate
5 prior to the implementation of the project.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION PROJECTS--
7 APPLICATIONS. Applications for teen pregnancy prevention project
8 funding shall:

9 (1) Define the community requesting funding;

10 (2) Designate a lead agency or organization for the project;

11 (3) Contain evidence of the active participation of entities in the
12 community that will participate in the project;

13 (4) Demonstrate the participation of teens in the development of
14 the project;

15 (5) Describe the specific activities that will be undertaken by the
16 project;

17 (6) Identify the community matching funds required under section 4
18 of this act;

19 (7) Include statistics on teen birth rates in the community over at
20 least the past five years; and

21 (8) Include components that will demonstrate sensitivity to
22 cultural and socioeconomic differences.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** REPORT. The department shall submit an
24 annual report on the state's teen birth rate over the previous five
25 years, both state-wide and in the specific communities in which teen
26 pregnancy prevention projects are located, to the appropriate standing
27 committees of the legislature in the years 1995 through 1999.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MEDIA CAMPAIGN.
29 The department shall develop a teen pregnancy prevention media
30 campaign. The media campaign shall be designed to reduce the incidence
31 of teen pregnancies. The media campaign shall be directed to teens,
32 their parents, and individuals and organizations working with teens.
33 The department may subcontract all or part of the activities associated
34 with the media campaign to qualified private, nonprofit organizations.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Sections 1 through 7 of this act shall
2 expire June 30, 1999.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** The sum of dollars, or as much
4 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated from the general fund to
5 the department of health, for the biennium ending June 30, 1995, to
6 carry out the purposes of sections 1 through 6 of this act.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** The sum of dollars, or as much
8 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated from the general fund to
9 the department of health, for the biennium ending June 30, 1995, to
10 carry out the purposes of section 7 of this act.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** The sum of dollars, or as much
12 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium ending
13 June 30, 1995, from the general fund to the department of health for
14 the purpose of increasing family planning services.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** The sum of dollars, or as much
16 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium ending
17 June 30, 1995, from the general fund to the medical assistance
18 administration in the department of social and health services for the
19 purpose of increasing family planning outreach and education.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** The sum of dollars, or as much
21 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium ending
22 June 30, 1995, from the general fund to the medical assistance
23 administration in the department of social and health services for the
24 purpose of extending eligibility for family planning benefits to one
25 year postpartum for women eligible for medical assistance under RCW
26 74.09.800.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** Sections 1 through 7 of this act shall
28 constitute a new chapter in Title 70 RCW.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** Captions as used in this act constitute no
30 part of the law.

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