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SENATE BILL 5728

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State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Senator Rinehart

Read first time 02/10/93. Referred to Committee on Health & Human Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to family planning services; and amending RCW  
2 74.09.790 and 74.09.800.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.09.790 and 1990 c 151 s 4 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in  
7 this section apply throughout RCW 74.09.760 through 74.09.820 and  
8 74.09.510:

9 (1) "At-risk eligible person" means an eligible person determined  
10 by the department to need special assistance in applying for and  
11 obtaining maternity care, including pregnant women who are substance  
12 abusers, pregnant and parenting adolescents, pregnant minority women,  
13 and other eligible persons who need special assistance in gaining  
14 access to the maternity care system.

15 (2) "County authority" means the board of county commissioners,  
16 county council, or county executive having the authority to participate  
17 in the maternity care access program or its designee. Two or more  
18 county authorities may enter into joint agreements to fulfill the  
19 requirements of this chapter.

1 (3) "Department" means the department of social and health  
2 services.

3 (4) "Eligible person" means a woman in need of maternity care or  
4 a child, who is eligible for medical assistance pursuant to this  
5 chapter or the prenatal care program administered by the department.

6 (5) "Maternity care services" means inpatient and outpatient  
7 medical care, case management, and support services necessary during  
8 prenatal, delivery, and postpartum periods.

9 (6) "Support services" means, at least, public health nursing  
10 assessment and follow-up, health and childbirth education,  
11 psychological assessment and counseling, outreach services, nutritional  
12 assessment and counseling, needed vitamin and nonprescriptive drugs,  
13 transportation, and child care. Support services may include alcohol  
14 and substance abuse treatment for pregnant women who are addicted or at  
15 risk of being addicted to alcohol or drugs to the extent funds are made  
16 available for that purpose.

17 (7) "Family planning services" means planning of the number of  
18 one's children by use of birth-control techniques.

19 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.09.800 and 1989 1st ex.s. c 10 s 5 are each amended  
20 to read as follows:

21 The department shall, consistent with the state budget act, develop  
22 a maternity care access program designed to ensure healthy birth  
23 outcomes as follows:

24 (1) Provide maternity care services to low-income pregnant women  
25 and health care services to children in poverty to the maximum extent  
26 allowable under the medical assistance program, Title XIX of the  
27 federal social security act;

28 (2) Provide maternity care services to low-income women who are not  
29 eligible to receive such services under the medical assistance program,  
30 Title XIX of the federal social security act;

31 (3) By January 1, 1990, have the following procedures in place to  
32 improve access to maternity care services and eligibility  
33 determinations for pregnant women applying for maternity care services  
34 under the medical assistance program, Title XIX of the federal social  
35 security act:

36 (a) Use of a shortened and simplified application form;

37 (b) Outstationing department staff to make eligibility  
38 determinations;

1 (c) Establishing local plans at the county and regional level,  
2 coordinated by the department; and

3 (d) Conducting an interview for the purpose of determining medical  
4 assistance eligibility within five working days of the date of an  
5 application by a pregnant woman and making an eligibility determination  
6 within fifteen working days of the date of application by a pregnant  
7 woman;

8 (4) Establish a maternity care case management system that shall  
9 assist at-risk eligible persons with obtaining medical assistance  
10 benefits and receiving maternity care services, including  
11 transportation and child care services;

12 (5) Within available resources, establish appropriate reimbursement  
13 levels for maternity care providers;

14 (6) Implement a broad-based public education program that stresses  
15 the importance of obtaining maternity care early during pregnancy;

16 ~~(7) ((Study the desirability and feasibility of implementing the  
17 presumptive eligibility provisions set forth in section 9407 of the  
18 federal omnibus budget reconciliation act of 1986 and report to the  
19 appropriate committees of the legislature by December 1, 1989; and~~

20 ~~(8))~~ Refer persons eligible for maternity care services under the  
21 program established by this section to persons, agencies, or  
22 organizations with maternity care service practices that primarily  
23 emphasize healthy birth outcomes; and

24 (8) To the extent of available funds:

25 (a) Family planning services may be provided to women who were  
26 receiving medical assistance under the maternity care access program or  
27 who were eligible only for emergency labor and delivery services at the  
28 time the pregnancy ended.

29 (b) Coverage for family planning services shall continue through  
30 the last day of the sixth month following the month pregnancy ends.

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