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SENATE BILL 5460

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senators Quigley, Moyer, Wojahn, Franklin, Deccio and Winsley; by request of Health Services Commission

Read first time 01/24/95. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to development of a long-term care integration  
2 plan; amending RCW 43.72.800; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.72.800 and 1993 c 492 s 457 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) To meet the health needs of the residents of Washington state,  
7 it is critical to finance and provide long-term care and support  
8 services through an integrated, comprehensive system that promotes  
9 human dignity and recognizes the individuality of all functionally  
10 disabled persons. This system shall be available, accessible, and  
11 responsive to all residents based upon an assessment of their  
12 functional disabilities. The governor and the legislature recognize  
13 that families, volunteers, and community organizations are essential  
14 for the delivery of effective and efficient long-term care and support  
15 services, and that this private and public service infrastructure  
16 should be supported and strengthened. Further, it is important to  
17 provide benefits without requiring family or program beneficiary  
18 impoverishment for service eligibility.

1 (2) To realize the need for a strong long-term care system and to  
2 carry out the November 30, 1992, final recommendations of the  
3 Washington health care cost control and access commission, established  
4 under House Concurrent Resolution No. 4443 adopted by the legislature  
5 in 1990, related to long-term care, the commission shall:

6 (a) Engage in a planning process, in conjunction with an advisory  
7 committee appointed for this purpose, for the inclusion of long-term  
8 care services in the uniform benefits package established under RCW  
9 43.72.130 by July 1999;

10 (b) Include in its planning process consideration of the scope of  
11 services to be covered, the cost of and financing of such coverage, the  
12 means through which existing long-term care programs and delivery  
13 systems can be coordinated and integrated, and the means through which  
14 family members can be supported in their role as informal caregivers  
15 for their parents, spouses, or other relatives.

16 (3) The commission shall submit recommendations concerning any  
17 necessary statutory changes or modifications of public policy to the  
18 governor and the legislature by January 1, (~~1995~~) 1997.

19 (4) The departments of health, retirement systems, revenue, social  
20 and health services, and veterans' affairs, the offices of financial  
21 management, insurance commissioner, and state actuary, along with the  
22 health care authority, shall participate in the review of the long-term  
23 care needs enumerated in this section and provide necessary supporting  
24 documentation and staff expertise as requested by the commission.

25 (5) The commission shall include in its planning process, the  
26 development of two social health maintenance organization long-term  
27 care pilot projects. The two pilot projects shall be referred to as  
28 the Washington life care pilot projects. Each life care pilot program  
29 shall be a single-entry system administered by an individual  
30 organization that is responsible for bringing together a full range of  
31 medical and long-term care services. The commission, in coordination  
32 with the appropriate agencies and departments, shall establish a  
33 Washington life care benefits package that shall include the uniform  
34 benefits package established in chapter 492, Laws of 1993 and long-term  
35 care services. The Washington life care benefits package shall  
36 include, but not be limited to, the following long-term care services:  
37 Case management, intake and assessment, nursing home care, adult family  
38 home care, home health and home health aide care, hospice, chore  
39 services/homemaker/personal care, adult day care, respite care, and

1 appropriate social services. The pilot project shall develop  
2 assessment and case management protocol that emphasize home and  
3 community-based care long-term care options.

4 (a) In designing the pilot projects, the commission shall address  
5 the following issues: Costs for the long-term care benefits, a  
6 projected case-mix based upon disability, the required federal waiver  
7 package, reimbursement, capitation methodology, marketing and  
8 enrollment, management information systems, identification of the most  
9 appropriate case management models, provider contracts, and the  
10 preferred organizational design that will serve as a functioning model  
11 for efficiently and effectively transitioning long-term care services  
12 into the uniform benefits package established in chapter 492, Laws of  
13 1993. The commission shall also be responsible for establishing the  
14 size of the two membership pools.

15 (b) Each program shall enroll applicants based on their level of  
16 functional disability and personal care needs. The distribution of  
17 these functional level categories and ethnicity within the enrolled  
18 program population shall be representative of their distribution within  
19 the community, using the best available data to estimate the community  
20 distributions.

21 (c) The two sites selected for the Washington life care pilot  
22 program(~~(+s+)~~) s shall be drawn from the largest urban areas and  
23 include one site in the eastern part of the state and one site in the  
24 western part of the state. The two organizations selected to manage  
25 and coordinate the life care services shall have the proven ability to  
26 provide ambulatory care, personal care/chore services, dental care,  
27 case management and referral services, must be accredited and licensed  
28 to provide long-term care for home health services, and may be licensed  
29 to provide nursing home care.

30 (d) The report on the development and establishment date of the two  
31 social health maintenance organizations shall be submitted to the  
32 governor and appropriate committees of the legislature by September 16,  
33 1994. If the necessary federal waivers cannot be secured by January 1,  
34 1995, the commission may elect to not establish the two pilot programs.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
36 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the

1 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take  
2 effect immediately.

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