

2SSB 6193 - H COMM AMD
By Committee on Health Care

ADOPTED 03/02/2006

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that people of color
4 experience significant disparities from the general population in
5 education, employment, healthy living conditions, access to health
6 care, and other social determinants of health. The legislature intends
7 to address barriers to gender-appropriate and culturally and
8 linguistically appropriate health care and health education materials,
9 including increasing the number of female and minority health care
10 providers, through expanded recruiting, education, and retention
11 programs. The legislature finds that before developing a work force
12 that is representative of the diversity of the state's population,
13 relevant and accurate data on health care professionals, students in
14 health care professions, and recipients of health services must first
15 be collected.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.70 RCW
17 to read as follows:

18 (1) The department, in collaboration with the work force training
19 and education coordinating board, shall distribute survey questions for
20 the purpose of gathering data related to work force supply and
21 demographics to all health care providers who hold a license to
22 practice a health profession. The department shall adopt a schedule
23 for distributing surveys by profession so that each profession is
24 surveyed every two years. In developing the survey, the department
25 shall seek advice from researchers that are likely to use the survey
26 data.

27 (2)(a) At a minimum, the survey shall include questions related to
28 understanding the following characteristics of individuals in the
29 health care work force:

1 (i) Specialty;

2 (ii) Birthdate and gender;

3 (iii) Race and ethnicity;

4 (iv) Hours in practice per week;

5 (v) Practice statistics, including hours spent in direct patient

6 care;

7 (vi) Zip codes of the location where the provider practices;

8 (vii) Years in practice, years in practice in Washington, location

9 and years in practice in other jurisdictions;

10 (viii) Education and training background, including the location

11 and types of education and training received; and

12 (ix) Type of facilities where the provider practices.

13 (b) The department may approve proposals for the distribution of

14 surveys containing additional data elements to selected health care

15 professions if it determines that there is a legitimate research

16 interest in obtaining the information, the additional burden on members

17 of the health care profession is not unreasonable, the effect on survey

18 response rates is not unreasonable, and there are funds available. The

19 department may accept funds through contracts, grants, donations, or

20 other forms of contributions to support more detailed surveys.

21 (3) The department must make a public data set available that meets

22 the confidentiality requirements of subsection (5) of this section.

23 The department may respond to requests for data and other information

24 from the registry for special studies and analysis pursuant to a data-

25 sharing agreement. Any use of the data by the requestor must comply

26 with the confidentiality requirements of subsection (5) of this

27 section. The department may require requestors to pay any or all of

28 the reasonable costs associated with such requests that may be

29 approved.

30 (4) The failure to complete or return the survey may not be grounds

31 to withhold, fail to renew, or revoke a license or to impose any other

32 disciplinary sanctions against a credentialed health care provider.

33 (5) The department must process the surveys that it receives in

34 such a way that the identity of individual providers remains

35 confidential. Data elements related to the identification of

36 individual providers are confidential and are exempt from RCW 42.56.040

37 through 42.56.570 and 42.17.350 through 42.17.450, except as provided

1 in a data-sharing agreement approved by the department pursuant to
2 subsection (3) of this section.

3 (6) By July 1, 2009, the department shall provide a report to the
4 appropriate committees of the legislature on the effectiveness of using
5 a survey to obtain information on the supply of health care
6 professionals, the distribution and use of the information obtained by
7 the surveys by employers and health professions education and training
8 programs and the extent to which the surveys have alleviated identified
9 shortages of trained health care providers.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Section 1 of this act takes effect July 1,
11 2006.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act expires January 1, 2012."

13 Correct the title.

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