

FINAL BILL REPORT

SSB 6196

C 238 L 06

Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Including a health official from a federally recognized tribe on the state board of health.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Franklin, Regala, Keiser, Eide, Rockefeller, Prentice, Thibaudeau, Jacobsen, Fairley, McAuliffe, Fraser, Sheldon, Brown, Spanel, Kline, Kohl-Welles, Shin and Esser).

Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care

House Committee on Health Care

Background: The State Board of Health was created to provide a forum for the development of public health policy in Washington State. The board is authorized to recommend to the Secretary of Health means for obtaining appropriate citizen and professional involvement in all public health policy formulation.

The board is composed of ten members: the Secretary of the Department of Health (or his or her designee); four persons experienced in matters of health and sanitation; an elected city official and county official who are members of their local health boards; a local health officer; and two persons representing the consumers of health care.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 8419 was introduced and passed by the Legislature in 2004 creating the Joint Select Committee on Health Disparities. The committee issued a report on health disparities in Washington on November 1, 2005. The report contained several recommendations and findings to be considered by the Legislature. The committee identified the need for Native Americans to have a larger role in the development of public health policy in our state.

Summary: The policy creates a requirement that one of the existing ten members of the State Board of Health is a member of a federally recognized tribe.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	45	0	
House	56	42	(House amended)
Senate	46	1	(Senate concurred)

Effective: June 7, 2006