

**SB 5729-S - DIGEST**

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Declares that protecting the public's health across the state is a fundamental responsibility of the state. With the commitment to state funding of the public health system as provided in this act, the state expects that measurable benefits will be realized to the health of the residents of Washington. In addition, a well-funded public health system is expected to become a more integral part of the state's emergency preparedness system.

Requires this increase in public health funding to deliver the following outcomes, subject to available funding levels: (1) Create a disease response system capable of responding at all times;

(2) Stop the increase in, and reduce, sexually transmitted disease rates;

(3) Reduce vaccine preventable diseases;

(4) Build capacity to quickly contain disease outbreaks;

(5) Decrease childhood obesity and diabetes rates;

(6) Increase childhood immunization rates;

(7) Provide home visiting services that improve birth outcomes and decrease child abuse;

(8) Reduce animal-to-human disease rates; and

(9) Monitor and protect drinking water across jurisdictional boundaries.

Provides that, beginning January 1, 2008, and on the first business day of each January thereafter, the state treasurer shall distribute from the local public health financing account five million four hundred twenty-five thousand dollars to be shared equally amongst all local health jurisdictions to address core public health functions of statewide significance.

Provides that, by January 1, 2008, the department shall: (1) Adopt a list of activities and services performed by local health jurisdictions that qualify as core public health functions of statewide significance as defined in this act; and

(2) Adopt appropriate performance measures with the intent of improving health status indicators applicable to the core public health functions of statewide significance that local health jurisdictions must provide pursuant to this act.

Provides that, beginning November 15, 2009, the department shall report to the legislature and the governor annually on the distribution of funds under this act and the use of those funds. The initial report must discuss the performance measures adopted by the secretary and any impact the funding in this act has had on local health jurisdiction performance and health status indicators. Future reports shall

evaluate trends in performance over time and the effects of expenditures on performance over time.