

**SB 5241** - S AMD TO S AMD (S-4880.1/24) **613**  
By Senator Braun

**NOT ADOPTED 02/08/2024**

1 Beginning on page 18, line 22, after "(1)" strike all material  
2 through "act" on page 19, line 2 and insert "For any material change  
3 transaction included under RCW 19.390.040(3), that is not limited to  
4 the preliminary review under section 10 of this act or being reviewed  
5 under the emergency review process pursuant to RCW 19.390.040(4) the  
6 attorney general may, in consultation with the secretary of health,  
7 hire an expert independent contractor to prepare a health equity  
8 assessment if, in the opinion of the attorney general and secretary  
9 of health, an assessment is necessary based on the likely negative  
10 impact of the transaction on the elements in subsection (3) of this  
11 section. The independent contractor shall be screened for any  
12 conflicts of interest in advance, agree to maintain confidentiality  
13 of information pursuant to this act, agree to charge a reasonable  
14 market rate fee, and have necessary experience and expertise in  
15 health planning, economics, operations, and financial analysis. In  
16 creating a health equity assessment, the independent contractor must  
17 engage with and provide input in the assessment from the department  
18 of health, local public health jurisdictions, emergency health care  
19 coalitions, health care entities, public health experts,  
20 organizations representing employees of the applicant, health care  
21 advocates, community members who reside in the service areas of the  
22 parties to the material change transaction, the parties to the  
23 material change transaction, and other individuals or organizations  
24 the attorney general, secretary of health, or independent consultant  
25 determine should be consulted. Any assessment conducted under this  
26 section must be completed 30 days prior to the attorney general's  
27 deadline to complete a review under section 10 of this act."

28 On page 20, line 13, after "(j)" strike "An" and insert "In  
29 consultation with the department of health, an"

30 On page 20, at the beginning of line 15, strike "with specific  
31 input from the department of health"

- 1 On page 21, line 3, after "to" insert "approve,"
- 2 On page 21, line 4, after "modifications" insert " ,"

EFFECT: Modifies the health equity assessment process used in comprehensive review to require the Attorney General to consult with the Secretary of Health on the hiring of an independent contractor to conduct the assessment.

Requires specific expertise for the independent contractor.

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