
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2547

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1992 Regular Session

By House Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Representatives Peery, Leonard, Brough, G. Cole, Silver, Pruitt, J. Kohl, Orr, Valle, O'Brien and Brekke)

Read first time 02/05/92.

1 AN ACT Relating to medical assistance reimbursement for health-
2 related services provided in schools; amending RCW 74.09.520; adding a
3 new section to chapter 28A.210 RCW; creating new sections; making an
4 appropriation; and declaring an emergency.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature recognizes that the
7 state of Washington currently offers medical assistance benefits to
8 children in the state with family incomes below certain fixed levels,
9 and that the scope of these benefits is defined in state and federal
10 law. The medical assistance program allows the state to use federal
11 funds to finance more than one-half of the cost of providing health
12 care services to these children. The legislature finds that school
13 districts are currently providing health and mental health-related
14 services, such as counseling, therapies, and screening, to children

1 eligible for medical assistance, that may qualify for federal matching
2 funds under the state's medical assistance program.

3 (2) It is the intent of the legislature to leverage state education
4 dollars by generating federal medical assistance matching funds for
5 health and mental health-related services provided by school districts.
6 The children served will be those who are eligible for medical
7 assistance under the existing program, and the categories of services
8 provided will be those that are covered under the existing medical
9 assistance program.

10 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.09.520 and 1991 sp.s. c 8 s 9 are each amended to
11 read as follows:

12 (1) The term "medical assistance" may include the following care
13 and services: (a) Inpatient hospital services; (b) outpatient hospital
14 services; (c) other laboratory and x-ray services; (d) nursing facility
15 services; (e) physicians' services, which shall include prescribed
16 medication and instruction on birth control devices; (f) medical care,
17 or any other type of remedial care as may be established by the
18 secretary; (g) home health care services; (h) private duty nursing
19 services; (i) dental services; (j) physical and occupational therapy
20 and related services; (k) prescribed drugs, dentures, and prosthetic
21 devices; and eyeglasses prescribed by a physician skilled in diseases
22 of the eye or by an optometrist, whichever the individual may select;
23 (l) personal care services, as provided in this section; (m) hospice
24 services; (n) other diagnostic, screening, preventive, and
25 rehabilitative services; and (o) like services when furnished to a
26 ((handicapped)) child by a school district ((as part of an
27 individualized education program established pursuant to RCW
28 28A.155.010 through 28A.155.100)) in a manner consistent with the
29 requirements of this chapter. For the purposes of this section, the

1 department may not cut off any prescription medications, oxygen
2 supplies, respiratory services, or other life-sustaining medical
3 services or supplies.

4 "Medical assistance," notwithstanding any other provision of law,
5 shall not include routine foot care, or dental services delivered by
6 any health care provider, that are not mandated by Title XIX of the
7 social security act unless there is a specific appropriation for these
8 services. (~~Services included in an individualized education program
9 for a handicapped child under RCW 28A.155.010 through 28A.155.100 shall
10 not qualify as medical assistance prior to the implementation of the
11 funding process developed under RCW 74.09.524.~~)

12 (2) The department shall amend the state plan for medical
13 assistance under Title XIX of the federal social security act to
14 include personal care services, as defined in 42 C.F.R. 440.170(f), in
15 the categorically needy program.

16 (3) The department shall adopt, amend, or rescind such
17 administrative rules as are necessary to ensure that Title XIX personal
18 care services are provided to eligible persons in conformance with
19 federal regulations.

20 (a) These administrative rules shall include financial eligibility
21 indexed according to the requirements of the social security act
22 providing for medicaid eligibility.

23 (b) The rules shall require clients be assessed as having a medical
24 condition requiring assistance with personal care tasks. Plans of care
25 must be approved by a physician and reviewed by a nurse every ninety
26 days.

27 (4) The department shall design and implement a means to assess the
28 level of functional disability of persons eligible for personal care
29 services under this section. The personal care services benefit shall
30 be provided to the extent funding is available according to the

1 assessed level of functional disability. Any reductions in services
2 made necessary for funding reasons should be accomplished in a manner
3 that assures that priority for maintaining services is given to persons
4 with the greatest need as determined by the assessment of functional
5 disability.

6 (5) The department shall report to the appropriate fiscal
7 committees of the legislature on the utilization and associated costs
8 of the personal care option under Title XIX of the federal social
9 security act, as defined in 42 C.F.R. 440.170(f), in the categorically
10 needy program. This report shall be submitted by January 1, 1990, and
11 submitted on a yearly basis thereafter.

12 (6) Effective July 1, 1989, the department shall offer hospice
13 services in accordance with available funds. The hospice benefit under
14 this section shall terminate on June 30, 1993, unless extended by the
15 legislature.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.210
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 (1) Funding for health and mental health-related services, provided
19 by local school districts in a manner consistent with the requirements
20 of RCW 74.09.500 through 74.09.910, may include payments from state and
21 federal funds for medical assistance. To the greatest extent possible,
22 the provision of mental health-related services under this section
23 shall be consistent with the applicable children's mental health
24 delivery system developed under chapter 71.36 RCW. The superintendent
25 of public instruction shall reimburse the department of social and
26 health services from state appropriations for education programs for
27 the state-funded portion of any medical assistance payment made by the
28 department for health or mental health-related services provided to
29 children eligible for medical assistance by local school districts

1 pursuant to this section, except to the extent that such payment is for
2 case management or support services provided through the maternity care
3 access program, as provided in RCW 74.09.760 through 74.09.810. The
4 amount of the interagency reimbursement shall be deducted by the
5 superintendent of public instruction in determining additional
6 allocations to districts for education programs under this section.

7 (2) Federal medical assistance funds received by school districts
8 for services provided under individualized education programs
9 established pursuant to chapter 28A.155 RCW shall be expended by the
10 school district solely for special education services pursuant to
11 chapter 28A.155 RCW.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** On or before January 1, 1993, the office
13 of the superintendent of public instruction and the department of
14 social and health services, in consultation with representatives of
15 educational service districts, local public health departments, and
16 school directors, shall develop a marketing and technical assistance
17 plan to increase the provision of medical assistance funded health and
18 mental health-related services by local school districts.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The sum of sixty thousand dollars, or as
20 much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated from the general fund
21 to the department of social and health services, for the biennium
22 ending June 30, 1993, solely for one full-time equivalent staff person
23 collocated at the department and the office of superintendent of public
24 instruction, to assist in development and implementation of the
25 marketing plan referenced in section 4 of this act.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act is necessary for the immediate
27 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.