
SENATE BILL 5559

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Senators Hargrove and Long

Read first time 01/27/1999. Referred to Committee on Human Services & Corrections.

1 AN ACT Relating to administering atypical antipsychotic
2 medications; amending RCW 71.24.310; and adding a new section to
3 chapter 71.24 RCW.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 71.24.310 and 1989 c 205 s 6 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 The legislature finds that administration of chapter 71.05 RCW and
8 this chapter can be most efficiently and effectively implemented as
9 part of the regional support network defined in RCW 71.24.025. For
10 this reason, the legislature intends that any enhanced program funding
11 for implementation of chapter 71.05 RCW or this chapter, except for
12 funds allocated for implementation of mandatory state-wide programs as
13 required by federal statute, and except for funds appropriated for the
14 purposes under section 2 of this act, be made available primarily to
15 those counties participating in regional support networks.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 71.24 RCW
17 to read as follows:

1 (1) The legislature finds that specific appropriations for atypical
2 antipsychotic medications used in community settings are more
3 effectively administered centrally by the mental health division of the
4 department of social and health services. It is the intent of the
5 legislature that the mental health division shall establish a mechanism
6 separate from the regional support network funding formula for
7 distributing specific appropriations for atypical antipsychotic
8 medications to the regional support networks. It is the further intent
9 of the legislature that this mechanism will maximize federal funding
10 opportunities, and that specific appropriations for these medications
11 shall be targeted toward underserved groups.

12 (2) The department shall establish a methodology to assure that
13 specific appropriations for atypical antipsychotic medications used in
14 community settings are directed toward each of the following groups:
15 (a) Persons in crisis who are not medicaid qualified; (b) working poor
16 who are not medicaid eligible; (c) persons transitioning from jail to
17 medicaid eligibility; and (d) persons in jail. The department shall
18 establish data mechanisms to assure that all persons who are medicaid
19 qualified achieve medicaid eligibility. Lack of medicaid eligibility
20 shall not be a criteria for exclusion from benefiting from specific
21 appropriations for atypical antipsychotic medications.

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