

SHB 3079 - H AMD 951

By Representative Conway

ADOPTED 2/14/2006

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 70.47
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) The health care authority, in coordination with the
6 department of social and health services, shall prepare a report on
7 basic health plan enrollees under this chapter who are employed by
8 any employer with thirty or more employees who are either basic
9 health plan enrollees or medical assistance recipients. The report
10 shall include the following composite information:

11 (a) The number of employees by employer;

12 (b) The employee size of the employer;

13 (c) The number of employees by industry type;

14 (d) The number of hours worked by employees;

15 (e) The number of employees with multiple employers;

16 (f) The number of employees who were receiving any government
17 assistance prior to being employed;

18 (g) The length of time the employee has been employed;

19 (h) The number of employees who chose the basic health plan
20 instead of insurance coverage offered by their employer, and why
21 they did so; and

22 (i) The number of employees referred to the basic health plan
23 by their employer and the number referred by others, including
24 public agencies, relatives, or friends.

25 (2) The report must be structured so as to identify seasonal
26 variations that may impact the composite information in the report.

27 (3) The report must include recommendations from the department
28 of social and health services for strategies to reduce state costs
29 associated with providing medical assistance coverage to
30 individuals who are employed on a full-time and year-round basis.

1 The report shall be prepared in consultation with the health care
2 authority and other interested organizations. The following
3 principles shall guide development of the recommendations:

4 (a) Employers who have the financial ability to contribute to
5 the cost of health care coverage for their employees should provide
6 such coverage; and

7 (b) Reduction of state costs should not come at the expense of
8 depriving low-wage employees of health care coverage.

9 (4) The report must be delivered electronically to appropriate
10 committees of the senate and house of representatives annually,
11 commencing no later than November 15, 2006.

12 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 74.09
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 (1) The department of social and health services, in
15 coordination with the health care authority, shall prepare a report
16 on recipients of medical assistance under this chapter who are
17 employed by any employer with thirty or more employees who are
18 either basic health plan enrollees or medical assistance
19 recipients. The report shall include the following composite information:

20 (a) The number of employees by employer;

21 (b) The employee size of the employer;

22 (c) The number of employees by industry type;

23 (d) The number of hours worked by employees;

24 (e) The number of employees with multiple employers;

25 (f) The number of employees who were receiving any government
26 assistance prior to being employed;

27 (g) The length of time the employee has been employed;

28 (h) The number of employees who chose receipt of medical
29 assistance instead of insurance coverage offered by their employer,
30 and why they did so; and

31 (i) The number of employees referred to medical assistance by
32 their employer and the number referred by others, including public
33 agencies, relatives, or friends.

34 (2) The report must be structured so as to identify seasonal
35 variations that may impact the composite information in the report.

36 (3) The report must include recommendations from the department
37 of social and health services for strategies to reduce state costs
38 associated with providing medical assistance coverage to

1 individuals who are employed on a full-time and year-round basis.
2 The report shall be prepared in consultation with the health care
3 authority and other interested organizations. The following
4 principles shall guide development of the recommendations:

5 (a) Employers who have the financial ability to contribute to
6 the cost of health care coverage for their employees should provide
7 such coverage; and

8 (b) Reduction of state costs should not come at the expense of
9 depriving low-wage employees of health care coverage.

10 (4) The report must be delivered electronically to appropriate
11 committees of the senate and house of representatives annually,
12 commencing no later than November 15, 2006.

13 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. If specific funding for the purposes of
14 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not
15 provided by June 30, 2006, in the omnibus appropriations act, this
16 act is null and void."

EFFECT:

Specifies that the reports are on Basic Health Plan enrollees and Medical Assistance recipients who are employed by employers with thirty or more employees who are either Basic Health Plan enrollees and Medical Assistance recipients.

Requires that the report include recommendations from the Health Care Authority and the Department of Social and Health Services for strategies to reduce state costs associated with providing basic health plan and medical assistance coverage to individuals who are employed on a full-time and year-round basis.