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SENATE BILL 5442

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State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Senators Poulsen, Keiser, Pflug, Fraser, Shin, Haugen, Franklin, Parlette, Rasmussen, McAuliffe and Kohl-Welles; by request of Governor Gregoire

Read first time 01/25/2005. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a task force on long-term care  
2 financing and chronic care management; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The governor shall establish a joint  
5 legislative and executive task force on long-term care financing and  
6 chronic care management. The joint task force consists of eight  
7 members, as follows: The secretary of the department of social and  
8 health services or his or her designee; the secretary of the department  
9 of health or his or her designee; the administrator of the health care  
10 authority or his or her designee; a representative from the governor's  
11 office; two members of the senate appointed by the president of the  
12 senate, one of whom shall be a member of the majority caucus and one of  
13 whom shall be a member of the minority caucus; and two members of the  
14 house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of  
15 representatives, one of whom shall be a member of the majority caucus  
16 and one of whom shall be a member of the minority caucus.

17 (2) The joint task force shall elect a member of the joint task  
18 force to serve as chair of the joint task force.

1 (3) Consistent with funds appropriated specifically for this  
2 purpose, the joint task force shall contract for professional services.  
3 State agencies, the senate, and the house of representatives may  
4 provide staff support upon request of the joint task force.

5 (4) The joint task force shall create advisory committees to assist  
6 the joint task force in its work.

7 (5) Joint task force members may be reimbursed for travel expenses  
8 as authorized under RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060, and chapter 44.04 RCW  
9 as appropriate. Advisory committee members, if appointed, may not  
10 receive compensation or reimbursement for travel or expenses.

11 (6) The joint task force shall review public and private mechanisms  
12 for financing long-term care and make recommendations related to:

13 (a) Efficient payment models that will effectively sustain public  
14 funding of long-term care and maximize the use of financial resources  
15 to directly meet the needs of persons of all ages with functional  
16 limitations;

17 (b) The feasibility of private options for realistically enabling  
18 individuals to pay for long-term care and the most effective tools for  
19 implementing these options. The assessment of options should include  
20 but not be limited to: (i) Adequacy of personal savings and pensions;  
21 (ii) availability of family care, including incentives and supports for  
22 families to provide care or pay for care; (iii) creative  
23 community-based strategies or partnerships for funding quality  
24 long-term care; (iv) enhanced health insurance options; (v) long-term  
25 care insurance options, including incentives to purchase long-term care  
26 insurance through individual or group-based products; (vi) life  
27 insurance annuities; and (vii) reverse mortgage and other products that  
28 draw on home equity; and

29 (c) Options that will support long-term care needs of rural  
30 communities.

31 (7) The joint task force shall recommend chronic care management  
32 and disability prevention interventions that will reduce health care  
33 and long-term care costs to individuals and the state, improve the  
34 health of individuals over their life span, and encourage patient  
35 self-management of chronic care needs.

36 (8) The joint task force shall incorporate a process designed to  
37 facilitate an open dialog with the public on findings and  
38 recommendations.

1           (9) The joint task force shall: (a) Report its initial findings to  
2 the governor and appropriate committees of the legislature by January  
3 1, 2006; (b) report its recommendations to the governor and appropriate  
4 committees of the legislature by January 1, 2007; and (c) submit a  
5 final report to the governor and appropriate committees of the  
6 legislature by June 30, 2007.

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