

SB 6366-S.E - DIGEST

(DIGEST AS ENACTED)

Declares an intent that adequate pandemic flu preparedness and response plans be developed and implemented by local public health jurisdictions statewide in order to limit the number of illnesses and deaths, preserve the continuity of essential government and other community services, and minimize social disruption and economic loss in the event of an influenza pandemic.

Requires the secretary to establish requirements and performance standards, consistent with any requirements or standards established by the United States department of health and human services, regarding the development and implementation of local pandemic flu preparedness and response plans.

Provides that, to the extent state or federal funds are provided for this purpose, by November 1, 2006, each local health jurisdiction shall develop a pandemic flu preparedness and response plan, consistent with requirements and performance standards established in this act.

Directs local health jurisdictions to submit their pandemic flu preparedness and response plans to the secretary by November 1, 2006. Upon receipt of a plan, the secretary shall approve or reject the plan.

Requires the secretary to develop a formula for distribution of any federal and state funds appropriated in the omnibus appropriations act on or before July 1, 2006, to local health jurisdictions for development and implementation of their pandemic flu preparedness and response plans. The formula developed by the secretary shall ensure that each local health jurisdiction receives a minimum amount of funds for plan development and that any additional funds for plan development be distributed equitably, including consideration of population and factors that increase susceptibility to an outbreak, upon soliciting the advice of the local health jurisdictions.

Requires the secretary to: (1) Develop a process for assessing the compliance of each local health jurisdiction with the requirements and performance standards developed under this act at least biannually;

(2) By November 15, 2008, report to the legislature on the level of compliance with the performance standards established under this act. The report shall consider the extent to which local health jurisdictions comply with each performance standard and any impediments to meeting the expected level of performance.

Provides that, by January 1, 2007, each local health jurisdiction shall develop a pandemic flu preparedness and

response plan, consistent with requirements and standards established by the department and the United States department of health and human services.

Requires the department to provide technical assistance and disburse funds as needed to support local health jurisdictions in developing their pandemic flu preparedness and response plans.