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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5912**

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**State of Washington                      62nd Legislature                      2011 1st Special Session**

**By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Keiser, Pflug, Kohl-Welles, and Kline)**

READ FIRST TIME 05/06/11.

1            AN ACT Relating to the expansion of family planning services to two  
2 hundred fifty percent of the federal poverty level; amending RCW  
3 74.09.659; adding a new section to chapter 74.09 RCW; and creating a  
4 new section.

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

6            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 74.09 RCW  
7 to read as follows:

8            The legislature finds that:

9            (1) Over half of all births in Washington state are covered by  
10 public programs;

11            (2) Research has demonstrated that children of unintended  
12 pregnancies receive less prenatal care and are at higher risk for  
13 premature birth, low birth weight, neurological disorders, and poor  
14 academic performance;

15            (3) In Washington state, over fifty percent of unintended  
16 pregnancies occur in women age twenty-five years and older;

17            (4) Washington state's take charge program has been successful in  
18 helping women avoid unintended pregnancies; however, when the caseload

1 declined due to federally mandated changes, the rate of unintended  
2 pregnancies increased dramatically;

3 (5) Expanding family planning services to cover women to two  
4 hundred fifty percent of the federal poverty level would align that  
5 program's eligibility standard with income eligibility for publicly  
6 funded maternity care service; and

7 (6) Such an expansion would reduce unintended pregnancies and  
8 associated costs to the state.

9 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.09.659 and 2009 c 545 s 5 are each amended to read  
10 as follows:

11 (1) The department shall continue to submit applications for the  
12 family planning waiver program.

13 (2) The department shall submit a request to the federal department  
14 of health and human services to amend the current family planning  
15 waiver program as follows:

16 (a) Provide coverage for sexually transmitted disease testing and  
17 treatment;

18 (b) Return to the eligibility standards used in 2005 including, but  
19 not limited to, citizenship determination based on declaration or  
20 matching with federal social security databases, insurance eligibility  
21 standards comparable to 2005, and confidential service availability for  
22 minors and survivors of domestic and sexual violence; and

23 (c) (~~Within available funds,~~) By September 30, 2011, submit an  
24 application to increase income eligibility to two hundred fifty percent  
25 of the federal poverty level, to correspond with income eligibility for  
26 publicly funded maternity care services.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Upon implementation of the expansion  
28 directed in RCW 74.09.659, the office of financial management shall  
29 reduce general fund--state allotments for the medical assistance  
30 program by one million five hundred thousand dollars for fiscal year  
31 2012 and by two million three hundred fifty thousand dollars for fiscal  
32 year 2013. The amounts reduced from allotments shall be placed in  
33 reserve status and remain unexpended.

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