
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6549

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Rolfes, Cleveland, Conway, Saldaña, and Sheldon)

READ FIRST TIME 02/06/18.

1 AN ACT Relating to expanding the access to baby and child
2 dentistry program to serve children with disabilities; and adding a
3 new section to chapter 74.09 RCW.

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

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

7 (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
8 specific purpose, the authority shall expand the access to baby and
9 child dentistry program to include children with disabilities as
10 eligible clients.

11 (2) Once enrolled in the program, eligible children with
12 disabilities must be covered until their thirteenth birthday.

13 (3) Children with disabilities enrolled in the program shall
14 receive all services and benefits received by program clients.

15 (4) The authority shall pay enhanced fees for program services
16 provided to children with disabilities enrolled in the program to
17 dentists and dental hygienists certified to provide program services
18 to children with disabilities. To receive certification to provide
19 program services to children with disabilities, a dentist or dental
20 hygienist must:

21 (a) Be licensed under Title 18 RCW; and

1 (b) Complete a course on treating children with disabilities as
2 defined by the authority in rule.

3 (5) On or before December 15, 2018, and on or before December 15,
4 2019, the authority, in consultation with any organizations
5 administering the program, shall provide a report, in compliance with
6 RCW 43.01.036, to the health care and fiscal committees of the
7 legislature, to include:

8 (a) The number of dentists and dental hygienists participating in
9 the program; and

10 (b) The number of children with disabilities who received
11 treatment through the program.

12 (6) For purposes of this section:

13 (a) "Children with disabilities" means all individuals under the
14 age of thirteen with a disability attributable to intellectual
15 disability, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, or another neurological
16 condition closely related to an intellectual disability or that
17 requires treatment similar to that required for persons with
18 intellectual disabilities, which has continued or can be expected to
19 continue indefinitely, and which constitutes a substantial limitation
20 to such individual, who are eligible for one of the following medical
21 assistance programs:

22 (i) Categorically needy program;

23 (ii) Limited casualty program-medically needy program;

24 (iii) Children's health program; or

25 (iv) State children's health insurance program.

26 (b) "Program" means the access to baby and child dentistry
27 program as established by WAC 182-535-1245 or successor rule.

--- END ---