
HOUSE BILL 2419

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Representatives Rude, Macri, Kloba, Peterson, Springer, Cody, Ormsby, Riccelli, and Doglio

Read first time 01/14/20. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to studying barriers to the use of the Washington
2 death with dignity act; adding a new section to chapter 70.245 RCW;
3 and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 70.245
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) The University of Washington shall conduct a study of the
8 ability of Washington residents to make use of the rights established
9 under this chapter. The study shall review the extent to which there
10 are barriers to achieving full access to the Washington death with
11 dignity act, including:

12 (a) A lack of awareness of the Washington death with dignity act
13 and its provisions;

14 (b) Burdens for qualified patients to meet the fifteen-day
15 waiting period;

16 (c) Concerns that inhibit the participation of health care
17 providers in the provisions of this chapter;

18 (d) Hospital, medical, hospice, and long-term care providers'
19 policies that restrict the participation in and the distribution of
20 information about the provisions of this chapter;

1 (e) Limited geographic access to compounding pharmacies or other
2 pharmacies that dispense medications under this chapter;

3 (f) Restrictions based on the requirement that the medications
4 under this chapter be self-administered;

5 (g) Lack of insurance coverage for the services and medications
6 necessary to participate in the provisions of this chapter;

7 (h) The need for improvements to the data collection system; and

8 (i) Any other barriers identified in the course of performing the
9 study.

10 (2) By December 1, 2020, the University of Washington shall
11 report its findings, as well as any legislative or administrative
12 policy recommendations, to the governor and the committees of the
13 legislature with jurisdiction over health policy. The report must
14 protect the confidentiality of the subjects of any data that it
15 receives from the department of health while conducting its research,
16 including the names of any qualifying patients and health care
17 providers.

18 (3) This section expires July 1, 2021.

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