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**SENATE BILL 5285**

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**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2023 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Nguyen, Billig, Cleveland, Conway, Frame, Kuderer, Lovelett, Nobles, and C. Wilson; by request of Office of Financial Management

Read first time 01/11/23. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 AN ACT Relating to adding a new caseload for the official  
2 caseload forecast for the number of people eligible for the working  
3 families' tax credit under RCW 82.08.0206; and amending RCW  
4 43.88C.010.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.88C.010 and 2022 c 219 s 2 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (1) The caseload forecast council is hereby created. The council  
9 shall consist of two individuals appointed by the governor and four  
10 individuals, one of whom is appointed by the chairperson of each of  
11 the two largest political caucuses in the senate and house of  
12 representatives. The chair of the council shall be selected from  
13 among the four caucus appointees. The council may select such other  
14 officers as the members deem necessary.

15 (2) The council shall employ a caseload forecast supervisor to  
16 supervise the preparation of all caseload forecasts. As used in this  
17 chapter, "supervisor" means the caseload forecast supervisor.

18 (3) Approval by an affirmative vote of at least five members of  
19 the council is required for any decisions regarding employment of the  
20 supervisor. Employment of the supervisor shall terminate after each  
21 term of three years. At the end of the first year of each three-year

1 term the council shall consider extension of the supervisor's term by  
2 one year. The council may fix the compensation of the supervisor. The  
3 supervisor shall employ staff sufficient to accomplish the purposes  
4 of this section.

5 (4) The caseload forecast council shall oversee the preparation  
6 of and approve, by an affirmative vote of at least four members, the  
7 official state caseload forecasts prepared under RCW 43.88C.020. If  
8 the council is unable to approve a forecast before a date required in  
9 RCW 43.88C.020, the supervisor shall submit the forecast without  
10 approval and the forecast shall have the same effect as if approved  
11 by the council.

12 (5) A councilmember who does not cast an affirmative vote for  
13 approval of the official caseload forecast may request, and the  
14 supervisor shall provide, an alternative forecast based on  
15 assumptions specified by the member.

16 (6) Members of the caseload forecast council shall serve without  
17 additional compensation but shall be reimbursed for travel expenses  
18 in accordance with RCW 44.04.120 while attending sessions of the  
19 council or on official business authorized by the council.  
20 Nonlegislative members of the council shall be reimbursed for travel  
21 expenses in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

22 (7) "Caseload," as used in this chapter, means:

23 (a) The number of persons expected to meet entitlement  
24 requirements and require the services of public assistance programs,  
25 state correctional institutions, state correctional noninstitutional  
26 supervision, state institutions for juvenile offenders, the common  
27 school system, long-term care, medical assistance, foster care, and  
28 adoption support;

29 (b) The number of students who are eligible for the Washington  
30 college bound scholarship program and are expected to attend an  
31 institution of higher education as defined in RCW 28B.92.030;

32 (c) The number of students who are eligible for the Washington  
33 college grant program under RCW 28B.92.200 and 28B.92.205 and are  
34 expected to attend an institution of higher education as defined in  
35 RCW 28B.92.030; (~~and~~)

36 (d) The number of children who are eligible, as defined in RCW  
37 43.216.505, to participate in, and the number of children actually  
38 served by, the early childhood education and assistance program; and

39 (e) Beginning with the first official forecast after the  
40 effective date of this section, the number of people eligible for the

1 working families' tax credit under RCW 82.08.0206. The total number  
2 of people eligible for the working families' tax credit should  
3 include:

4 (i) The number of eligible people with no qualifying children;

5 (ii) The number of eligible people with one qualifying child;

6 (iii) The number of eligible people with two qualifying children;

7 and

8 (iv) The number of eligible people with three or more qualifying  
9 children.

10 (8) The caseload forecast council shall forecast the temporary  
11 assistance for needy families and the working connections child care  
12 programs as a courtesy.

13 (9) By January 1, 2023, the caseload forecast council shall  
14 present the number of individuals who are assessed as eligible for  
15 and have requested a service through the individual and family  
16 services waiver and the basic plus waiver administered by the  
17 developmental disabilities administration as a courtesy. The caseload  
18 forecast council shall be presented with the service request list as  
19 defined in RCW 71A.10.020 to aid in development of this information.

20 (10) Beginning with the official forecast submitted in November  
21 2022 and subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
22 specific purpose, the caseload forecast council shall forecast the  
23 number of individuals who are assessed as eligible for and have  
24 requested supported living services, a service through the core  
25 waiver, an individual and family services waiver, and the basic plus  
26 waiver administered by the developmental disabilities administration  
27 as a courtesy. The caseload forecast council shall be presented with  
28 the service request list as defined in RCW 71A.10.020 to aid in  
29 development of this information.

30 (11) As a courtesy, beginning with the official forecast  
31 submitted in November 2022, the caseload forecast council shall  
32 forecast the number of individuals who are expected to reside in  
33 state-operated living alternatives administered by the developmental  
34 disabilities administration.

35 (12) The caseload forecast council shall forecast youth  
36 participating in the extended foster care program pursuant to RCW  
37 74.13.031 separately from other children who are residing in foster  
38 care and who are under eighteen years of age.

39 (13) The caseload forecast council shall forecast the number of  
40 youth expected to receive behavioral rehabilitation services while

1 involved in the foster care system and the number of screened in  
2 reports of child abuse or neglect.

3 (14) Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the  
4 definitions provided in RCW 43.88.020 apply to this chapter.

5 (15) During the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium, and beginning with the  
6 November 2021 forecast, the caseload forecast council shall produce  
7 an unofficial forecast of the long-term caseload for juvenile  
8 rehabilitation as a courtesy.

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