

ESSB 5998 - H AMD TO H AMD (H-3714.1/26) **2101**

By Representative Penner

ADOPTED 02/28/2026

1 On page 145, after line 33, insert the following:

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3 "(c) Within existing resources, the department shall develop a
4 plan to implement a pilot program to allow certain clients with a
5 developmental disability, as defined in RCW 71A.10,020, who are served
6 by the department, who live in community settings, and whose
7 behavioral or medical acuity prevents them from accessing routine
8 community dental care, to access dental services at residential
9 habilitation centers. The plan must be submitted to the appropriate
10 committees of the legislature by December 1, 2026.

11 (i) The department shall work with the health care authority to
12 identify the best enrollment and billing path for the dental clinics
13 at residential habilitation centers to serve clients with intellectual
14 or developmental disabilities who live in community settings.

15 (ii) The plan may present multiple options, but it must include a
16 primary option that bases capacity and cost estimates on maximizing
17 the existing physical footprint of residential habilitation center
18 dental clinics, short of any capital improvements or facility
19 expansions. To inform the pilot program, the plan must evaluate the
20 clinics' ability to serve clients across various acuity levels,
21 including identifying which clients can receive direct dental
22 treatment at the centers and which require triage, assessment, and
23 care coordination for a referral to specialized providers for higher-
24 level interventions.

25 (iii) The plan must contain the following:

26 (A) Necessary cost information;

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1 (B) Estimates of how much costs could be recovered per client and
2 in aggregate through insurance, fees, medicaid billing, or other
3 options;

4 (C) Information on which options might require additional billing
5 technology and a detailed explanation of why existing health care
6 authority billing pathways cannot be utilized;

7 (D) Recommendations for statutory changes; and

8 (E) Identification of any necessary updates to the state plan
9 approved by the centers for medicare and medicaid services."

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EFFECT: Directs the Department of Social and Health Services to develop a plan to implement a pilot program to allow certain clients in community settings to access dental services at the residential habilitation centers. The plan must be submitted to the Legislature by December 1, 2026.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No net change to appropriated levels.

FOUR-YEAR OUTLOOK EXPENDITURE EFFECT:

None.

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