

FINAL BILL REPORT

SSB 5917

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Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Improving access to abortion medications.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Human Services (originally sponsored by Senators Bateman, Frame, Alvarado, Cleveland, Conway, Hasegawa, Lias, Nobles, Orwall, Pedersen, Saldaña, Salomon, Stanford, Valdez and Wilson, C.; by request of Women's Commission).

Senate Committee on Human Services
House Committee on Health Care & Wellness

Background: Washington State Department of Corrections. The Department of Corrections (DOC) provides medically necessary health and mental health care to incarcerated individuals at all DOC facilities in the state of Washington. Pharmacy services are provided from a DOC centralized pharmacy located in Centralia and prescription drugs are shipped to facilities across the state. DOC is authorized to acquire, receive, possess, sell, resell, deliver, dispense, distribute, and engage in any activity constituting the practice of pharmacy or wholesale distribution with respect to abortion medications.

DOC may exercise its authority for the benefit of any person, whether they are incarcerated or not. When DOC is selling, delivering, or distributing abortion medications to health care providers or health care entities, it may only do so with providers and entities that will use the medications for providing abortion care or medical management of early pregnancy loss. In 2023, DOC purchased 30,000 doses of mifepristone, and in 2025, DOC purchased an additional 17,600 doses of mifepristone and 155,000 doses of misoprostol.

Any abortion medications sold, resold, delivered, dispensed, or distributed whether individually or wholesale must be conducted at a cost that does not exceed list price, with an additional \$5 per dose fee to offset the cost of storage and delivery. All revenue generated must be deposited into the general fund.

Abortion medications is defined to mean substances used in the course of medical treatment intended to induce the termination of a pregnancy including but not limited to,

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mifepristone.

Mifepristone and Misoprostol. Mifeprex, and its generic, mifepristone, are approved, in a regimen with misoprostol, to end an intrauterine pregnancy through ten weeks gestation. The Food and Drug Administration first approved mifeprex in 2000, and approved the generic version, mifepristone, in 2019. Misoprostol has many uses, including to reduce stomach acid and protect the stomach lining.

Summary: The ability of DOC to sell, distribute, or deliver abortion medications to health care providers and health care entities that will use the medications for providing reproductive health care, which includes abortion care or medical management of early pregnancy loss, is expanded.

DOC must coordinate with the Department of Health to identify appropriate recipients of the abortion medications and prioritize bulk distribution to health care providers and health care entities, including Indian health care providers. DOC may, but is not required to obtain any payment for delivering, dispensing, or distributing abortion medications or engaging in any other activity.

Language is removed that any abortion medications sold, resold, delivered, dispensed, or distributed individually or wholesale must be at a cost not to exceed list price plus a \$5 fee to offset storage and delivery.

Health care entity is expanded to include Indian health care provider and urban Indian health organization.

Abortion medications is defined to also include managing the full spectrum of reproductive health care and the use of misoprostol.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	32	17
House	57	36

Effective: March 14, 2026