
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1697

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Stonier, Parshley, Reed, and Hill)

READ FIRST TIME 02/21/25.

1 AN ACT Relating to ensuring timely, efficient, and evidence-based
2 additions to newborn screenings; amending RCW 70.83.020, 70.83.023,
3 and 70.83.030; reenacting and amending RCW 43.79A.040 and 43.79A.040;
4 adding a new section to chapter 70.83 RCW; adding a new section to
5 chapter 43.70 RCW; creating a new section; providing an effective
6 date; and providing an expiration date.

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

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes the critical
9 importance of newborn screenings in identifying rare genetic and
10 metabolic conditions that can otherwise go undiagnosed, leading to
11 irreversible harm. The legislature recognizes the department of
12 health's newborn screening program currently tests newborns for 32
13 rare congenital conditions through drops of blood collected within
14 the first days and weeks of birth and funded through a one-time fee
15 generally billed through the birthing facility. Further, the
16 legislature recognizes that the federal recommended uniform screening
17 panel is established and periodically updated through a science-based
18 and deliberative review process by a national committee of experts in
19 newborn screening and rare disease. It is the intent of the
20 legislature that additions to the newborn screening panel be timely,
21 efficient, and evidence-based, and that this be achieved by

1 leveraging the recommended uniform screening panel, ensuring intra-
2 agency coordination, requiring focused feasibility reviews, and
3 ensuring fees collected for newborn screenings are readily available
4 to implement the requirements under chapter 70.83 RCW. Furthermore,
5 the legislature intends to protect the ability of the public to
6 petition for additions to the newborn screening panel outside of the
7 recommended uniform screening panel.

8 **Sec. 2.** RCW 70.83.020 and 2014 c 18 s 1 are each amended to read
9 as follows:

10 (1) It shall be the duty of the department of health to require
11 screening tests of all newborn infants born in any setting. Each
12 hospital or health care provider attending a birth outside of a
13 hospital shall collect and submit a sample blood specimen for all
14 newborns no more than ~~((forty-eight))~~ 48 hours following birth.

15 (2) The department of health shall conduct screening tests of
16 samples for the detection of ~~((phenylketonuria and other heritable or
17 metabolic disorders leading to intellectual disabilities or physical
18 defects as defined))~~ the conditions listed in the newborn screening
19 panel determined by the state board of health in rule as required
20 under section 3 of this act: PROVIDED, That no such tests shall be
21 given to any newborn infant whose parents or guardian object thereto
22 on the grounds that such tests conflict with their religious tenets
23 and practices.

24 ~~((+2))~~ (3) The sample required in subsection (1) of this section
25 must be received by the department ~~((of health))~~ of health within
26 ~~((seventy-two))~~ 72 hours of the collection of the sample, excluding
27 any day that the Washington state public health laboratory is closed.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 70.83
29 RCW to read as follows:

30 (1) By January 1, 2027, the state board of health shall
31 reestablish in rule the newborn screening panel that newborns must be
32 screened under RCW 70.83.020. In reestablishing the initial newborn
33 screening panel, the state board of health shall include:

34 (a) All conditions newborns must be screened for as required by
35 the existing state board of health rules as of January 1, 2025;

36 (b) All conditions included in the existing federal recommended
37 uniform screening panel as of January 1, 2025.

1 (2) Within the first complete calendar year after the addition of
2 a new condition to the federal recommended uniform screening panel,
3 the state board of health shall determine whether to add that new
4 condition to the newborn screening panel. In making its
5 determination, the state board of health must avoid duplicating
6 research and evaluation efforts leading to the addition of the
7 condition to the federal recommended uniform screening panel, and
8 complete and consider the findings of a feasibility review.

9 (a) The feasibility review must identify costs to screen for the
10 condition, federal funding available to aid implementation of the
11 screening of the new condition, recommendations of changes to the fee
12 charged for the newborn screening, and a timeline for including the
13 new condition on the newborn screening panel.

14 (b) In conducting the feasibility review, the board shall consult
15 with the health care authority to ensure consideration of impacts on
16 state purchased health care programs under chapter 41.05 RCW and
17 medical care programs under chapter 74.09 RCW and with the department
18 of health.

19 (c) If the board determines that the condition should be included
20 in the newborn screening panel, the board shall complete rule making
21 to include the condition in the newborn screening panel within 12
22 months of the determination.

23 (3) The board may add other new conditions to the newborn
24 screening panel in rule if it completes the feasibility review as
25 described in subsection (2)(a) and (b) of this section.

26 (4) The board shall adopt rules as necessary to implement and
27 administer this section.

28 **Sec. 4.** RCW 70.83.023 and 2010 1st sp.s. c 17 s 1 are each
29 amended to read as follows:

30 (1) The department of health under its authority in RCW
31 43.20B.020 may charge and collect a reasonable fee from parents,
32 guardians, or responsible parties for the costs of newborn screening.

33 (2) The department of health has the authority to collect a fee
34 of ((eight dollars and forty cents)) \$8.40 from the parents or other
35 responsible party of each infant screened for congenital disorders as
36 defined by the state board of health under RCW 70.83.020 to fund
37 specialty clinics that provide treatment services for those with the
38 defined disorders. The fee may also be used to support organizations
39 conducting community outreach, education, and adult support related

1 to sickle cell disease. The fee collected under this subsection is in
2 addition to the fee collected by the department of health for the
3 purposes of the newborn screening under subsection (1) of this
4 section.

5 (3) The ((fee)) fees authorized under this section may be
6 collected through the facility where a screening specimen is
7 obtained.

8 **Sec. 5.** RCW 70.83.030 and 1991 c 3 s 349 are each amended to
9 read as follows:

10 Laboratories, attending physicians, hospital administrators, or
11 other persons performing or requesting the performance of tests for
12 ((phenylketonuria)) the diseases and conditions on the newborn
13 screening panel under this chapter shall report to the department of
14 health all positive tests. The state board of health by rule shall,
15 when it deems appropriate, require that positive tests for other
16 heritable and metabolic disorders covered by this chapter be reported
17 to the state department of health by such persons or agencies
18 requesting or performing such tests.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 43.70
20 RCW to read as follows:

21 The newborn screening revenue account is created in the custody
22 of the state treasurer. All receipts collected under chapter 70.83
23 RCW must be deposited into the account. Expenditures from the account
24 may only be used for activities directly related to implementing and
25 administering chapter 70.83 RCW. Only the secretary or the
26 secretary's designee may authorize expenditure from the account. The
27 account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW,
28 but an appropriation is not required for expenditures.

29 **Sec. 7.** RCW 43.79A.040 and 2024 c 327 s 16 and 2024 c 168 s 10
30 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

31 (1) Money in the treasurer's trust fund may be deposited,
32 invested, and reinvested by the state treasurer in accordance with
33 RCW 43.84.080 in the same manner and to the same extent as if the
34 money were in the state treasury, and may be commingled with moneys
35 in the state treasury for cash management and cash balance purposes.

1 (2) All income received from investment of the treasurer's trust
2 fund must be set aside in an account in the treasury trust fund to be
3 known as the investment income account.

4 (3) The investment income account may be utilized for the payment
5 of purchased banking services on behalf of treasurer's trust funds
6 including, but not limited to, depository, safekeeping, and
7 disbursement functions for the state treasurer or affected state
8 agencies. The investment income account is subject in all respects to
9 chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is required for payments to
10 financial institutions. Payments must occur prior to distribution of
11 earnings set forth in subsection (4) of this section.

12 (4)(a) Monthly, the state treasurer must distribute the earnings
13 credited to the investment income account to the state general fund
14 except under (b), (c), and (d) of this subsection.

15 (b) The following accounts and funds must receive their
16 proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's or fund's
17 average daily balance for the period: The 24/7 sobriety account, the
18 Washington promise scholarship account, the Gina Grant Bull memorial
19 legislative page scholarship account, the Rosa Franklin legislative
20 internship program scholarship account, the Washington advanced
21 college tuition payment program account, the Washington college
22 savings program account, the accessible communities account, the
23 Washington achieving a better life experience program account, the
24 Washington career and college pathways innovation challenge program
25 account, the community and technical college innovation account, the
26 agricultural local fund, the American Indian scholarship endowment
27 fund, the behavioral health loan repayment and scholarship program
28 account, the Billy Frank Jr. national statuary hall collection fund,
29 the foster care scholarship endowment fund, the foster care endowed
30 scholarship trust fund, the contract harvesting revolving account,
31 the Washington state combined fund drive account, the commemorative
32 works account, the county 911 excise tax account, the county road
33 administration board emergency loan account, the toll collection
34 account, the developmental disabilities endowment trust fund, the
35 energy account, the energy facility site evaluation council account,
36 the fair fund, the family and medical leave insurance account, the
37 Fern Lodge maintenance account, the fish and wildlife federal lands
38 revolving account, the natural resources federal lands revolving
39 account, the food animal veterinarian conditional scholarship
40 account, the forest health revolving account, the fruit and vegetable

1 inspection account, the educator conditional scholarship account, the
2 game farm alternative account, the GET ready for math and science
3 scholarship account, the Washington global health technologies and
4 product development account, the grain inspection revolving fund, the
5 Washington history day account, the industrial insurance rainy day
6 fund, the juvenile accountability incentive account, the law
7 enforcement officers' and firefighters' plan 2 expense fund, the
8 local tourism promotion account, the low-income home rehabilitation
9 account, the medication for people living with HIV rebate revenue
10 account, the newborn screening revenue account, the homeowner
11 recovery account, the multiagency permitting team account, the
12 northeast Washington wolf-livestock management account, the pollution
13 liability insurance program trust account, the produce railcar pool
14 account, the public use general aviation airport loan revolving
15 account, the regional transportation investment district account, the
16 rural rehabilitation account, the Washington sexual assault kit
17 account, the stadium and exhibition center account, the youth
18 athletic facility account, the self-insurance revolving fund, the
19 children's trust fund, the Washington horse racing commission
20 Washington bred owners' bonus fund and breeder awards account, the
21 Washington horse racing commission class C purse fund account, the
22 individual development account program account, the Washington horse
23 racing commission operating account, the life sciences discovery
24 fund, the Washington state library-archives building account, the
25 reduced cigarette ignition propensity account, the center for deaf
26 and hard of hearing youth account, the school for the blind account,
27 the Millersylvania park trust fund, the public employees' and
28 retirees' insurance reserve fund, the school employees' benefits
29 board insurance reserve fund, the public employees' and retirees'
30 insurance account, the school employees' insurance account, the long-
31 term services and supports trust account, the radiation perpetual
32 maintenance fund, the Indian health improvement reinvestment account,
33 the department of licensing tuition recovery trust fund, the student
34 achievement council tuition recovery trust fund, the tuition recovery
35 trust fund, the industrial insurance premium refund account, the
36 mobile home park relocation fund, the natural resources deposit fund,
37 the Washington state health insurance pool account, the federal
38 forest revolving account, the Washington saves administrative
39 treasury trust account, and the library operations account.

1 (c) The following accounts and funds must receive 80 percent of
2 their proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's or
3 fund's average daily balance for the period: The advance right-of-way
4 revolving fund, the advanced environmental mitigation revolving
5 account, the federal narcotics asset forfeitures account, the high
6 occupancy vehicle account, the local rail service assistance account,
7 and the miscellaneous transportation programs account.

8 (d) Any state agency that has independent authority over accounts
9 or funds not statutorily required to be held in the custody of the
10 state treasurer that deposits funds into a fund or account in the
11 custody of the state treasurer pursuant to an agreement with the
12 office of the state treasurer shall receive its proportionate share
13 of earnings based upon each account's or fund's average daily balance
14 for the period.

15 (5) In conformance with Article II, section 37 of the state
16 Constitution, no trust accounts or funds shall be allocated earnings
17 without the specific affirmative directive of this section.

18 **Sec. 8.** RCW 43.79A.040 and 2024 c 327 s 17 and 2024 c 168 s 11
19 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

20 (1) Money in the treasurer's trust fund may be deposited,
21 invested, and reinvested by the state treasurer in accordance with
22 RCW 43.84.080 in the same manner and to the same extent as if the
23 money were in the state treasury, and may be commingled with moneys
24 in the state treasury for cash management and cash balance purposes.

25 (2) All income received from investment of the treasurer's trust
26 fund must be set aside in an account in the treasury trust fund to be
27 known as the investment income account.

28 (3) The investment income account may be utilized for the payment
29 of purchased banking services on behalf of treasurer's trust funds
30 including, but not limited to, depository, safekeeping, and
31 disbursement functions for the state treasurer or affected state
32 agencies. The investment income account is subject in all respects to
33 chapter 43.88 RCW, but no appropriation is required for payments to
34 financial institutions. Payments must occur prior to distribution of
35 earnings set forth in subsection (4) of this section.

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37 credited to the investment income account to the state general fund
38 except under (b), (c), and (d) of this subsection.

1 (b) The following accounts and funds must receive their
2 proportionate share of earnings based upon each account's or fund's
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6 internship program scholarship account, the Washington advanced
7 college tuition payment program account, the Washington college
8 savings program account, the accessible communities account, the
9 Washington achieving a better life experience program account, the
10 Washington career and college pathways innovation challenge program
11 account, the community and technical college innovation account, the
12 agricultural local fund, the American Indian scholarship endowment
13 fund, the behavioral health loan repayment and scholarship program
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31 Washington history day account, the industrial insurance rainy day
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35 account, the medication for people living with HIV rebate revenue
36 account, the newborn screening revenue account, the homeowner
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39 railcar pool account, the public use general aviation airport loan
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1 account, the rural rehabilitation account, the Washington sexual
2 assault kit account, the stadium and exhibition center account, the
3 youth athletic facility account, the self-insurance revolving fund,
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12 the Millersylvania park trust fund, the public employees' and
13 retirees' insurance reserve fund, the school employees' benefits
14 board insurance reserve fund, the public employees' and retirees'
15 insurance account, the school employees' insurance account, the long-
16 term services and supports trust account, the radiation perpetual
17 maintenance fund, the Indian health improvement reinvestment account,
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19 achievement council tuition recovery trust fund, the tuition recovery
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36 office of the state treasurer shall receive its proportionate share
37 of earnings based upon each account's or fund's average daily balance
38 for the period.

1 (5) In conformance with Article II, section 37 of the state
2 Constitution, no trust accounts or funds shall be allocated earnings
3 without the specific affirmative directive of this section.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** Section 7 of this act expires July 1,
5 2030.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** Section 8 of this act takes effect July
7 1, 2030.

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