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**ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 2211**

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**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2026 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Reeves, Doglio, Parshley, Reed, Thomas, Gregerson, Berg, Macri, Fosse, Hill, and Donaghy

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1 AN ACT Relating to medically tailored meals; adding a new section  
2 to chapter 74.39A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.09 RCW; and  
3 creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

6 (a) Washington state recently received authority from the federal  
7 centers for medicare and medicaid services to administer a health  
8 benefit under the apple health program to provide medically tailored  
9 meals to certain medical assistance clients with health-related  
10 conditions that require nutrition supports to improve their health  
11 outcomes;

12 (b) The provision of fresh, locally produced meals provides  
13 clients with proper nutrition to manage their health conditions and  
14 an example of healthier food options that can promote healthier  
15 future meal decisions;

16 (c) The production and delivery of medically tailored meals at  
17 the local level can reduce pollution and other impacts on the  
18 environment; and

19 (d) Local delivery drivers of medically tailored meals from a  
20 client's community are able to connect directly with clients and

1 monitor their health and emotional status and alert community service  
2 providers when services may be necessary.

3 (2) The legislature, therefore, intends to prioritize the  
4 provision of medically tailored meals to clients enrolled in state-  
5 supported medical assistance programs by medically tailored meal  
6 vendors that are able to provide locally produced whole foods through  
7 the use of community-based delivery drivers.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 74.39A  
9 RCW to read as follows:

10 (1)(a) Any benefit administered by the department through  
11 contracted entities to provide medically tailored meals to clients  
12 under this chapter shall, to the extent possible, prioritize the  
13 purchase of medically tailored meals produced by medically tailored  
14 meal vendors that are nonprofit organizations or small businesses  
15 that are able to provide locally produced, fresh, whole foods or from  
16 scratch prepared meals.

17 (b) Medically tailored meal vendors shall comply with the  
18 client's medically tailored meal nutrition care plan. The medically  
19 tailored meal vendor shall have a qualified medical professional  
20 review and approve the menus provided in response to a nutrition care  
21 plan for medically tailored meals.

22 (c) All medically tailored meals provided to clients under this  
23 chapter shall:

24 (i) Align with evidence-based nutritional practice guidelines for  
25 treating the specified condition;

26 (ii) Offer accommodations in dietary needs, allergy restrictions,  
27 and cultural preferences;

28 (iii) Prioritize local, whole foods or from scratch prepared  
29 meals unless otherwise required to appropriately meet the needs of a  
30 client;

31 (iv) Provide at least 500 calories, or otherwise meet a client's  
32 medically appropriate energy needs; and

33 (v) Provide one-third of the recommended dietary reference  
34 intakes for carbohydrates and protein as established by the food and  
35 nutrition board of the national academy of medicine, unless otherwise  
36 permitted.

37 (2) For the purposes of this section:

1 (a) "Medically tailored meal" means a fresh or frozen meal that  
2 is designed by a qualified medical professional for the treatment of  
3 one or more medical conditions of a client.

4 (b) "Medically tailored meal vendor" means a vendor that provides  
5 medically tailored meals according to specifications from a qualified  
6 medical professional.

7 (c) "Qualified medical professional" means a person who holds a  
8 credential issued by a disciplining authority under RCW 18.130.040  
9 and whose credential includes the authority to establish and tailor  
10 nutrition care plans to meet the medical needs of a referred client.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 74.09  
12 RCW to read as follows:

13 (1)(a) Any benefit administered by the authority through  
14 contracted entities to provide medically tailored meals to enrollees  
15 under this chapter shall, to the extent possible, prioritize the  
16 purchase of medically tailored meals produced by medically tailored  
17 meal vendors that are nonprofit organizations or small businesses  
18 that are able to provide locally produced, fresh, whole foods or from  
19 scratch prepared meals.

20 (b) Medically tailored meal vendors shall comply with the  
21 enrollee's medically tailored meal nutrition care plan. The medically  
22 tailored meal vendor shall have a qualified medical professional  
23 review and approve the menus provided in response to a nutrition care  
24 plan for medically tailored meals.

25 (c) All medically tailored meals provided to enrollees under this  
26 chapter shall:

27 (i) Align with evidence-based nutritional practice guidelines for  
28 treating the specified condition;

29 (ii) Offer accommodations in dietary needs, allergy restrictions,  
30 and cultural preferences;

31 (iii) Prioritize local, whole foods or from scratch prepared  
32 meals unless otherwise required to appropriately meet the needs of an  
33 enrollee;

34 (iv) Provide at least 500 calories, or otherwise meet an  
35 enrollee's medically appropriate energy needs; and

36 (v) Provide one-third of the recommended dietary reference  
37 intakes for carbohydrates and protein as established by the food and  
38 nutrition board of the national academy of medicine, unless otherwise  
39 permitted.

1 (2) For the purposes of this section:

2 (a) "Medically tailored meal" means a fresh or frozen meal that  
3 is designed by a qualified medical professional for the treatment of  
4 one or more medical conditions of an enrollee.

5 (b) "Medically tailored meal vendor" means a vendor that provides  
6 medically tailored meals according to specifications from a qualified  
7 medical professional.

8 (c) "Qualified medical professional" means a person who holds a  
9 credential issued by a disciplining authority under RCW 18.130.040  
10 and whose credential includes the authority to establish and tailor  
11 nutrition care plans to meet the medical needs of a referred client.

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