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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5504**

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**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2025 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Health & Long-Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Chapman, Harris, Cortes, Saldaña, Trudeau, and Valdez)

READ FIRST TIME 02/21/25.

1 AN ACT Relating to supporting caregivers who provide complex care  
2 services to children with heightened medical needs; creating a new  
3 section; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) By December 1, 2025, the health care  
6 authority shall seek consultation from the federal centers for  
7 medicare and medicaid services for an approval of a state plan  
8 amendment to provide payment to a home health agency for complex care  
9 services as a component of the private duty nursing benefit when  
10 provided to an enrollee under 18 years old receiving private duty  
11 nursing in a medical assistance program under chapter 74.09 RCW when:

12 (a) The caregiver providing the complex care services is a  
13 parent, guardian, family member, or other close association that is  
14 the equivalent of a family relation of the enrollee;

15 (b) The caregiver has successfully completed at least 75 total  
16 hours of instruction offered by a home health agency that is  
17 accredited by an organization recognized by the health care authority  
18 and has been determined to be competent to provide complex care  
19 services;

1 (c) The caregiver is educated and trained by a registered nurse  
2 licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW to provide complex care services to  
3 the patient; and

4 (d) The caregiver providing the complex care services is employed  
5 by a home health agency licensed under chapter 70.126 RCW with a  
6 provider agreement with the health care authority or a managed care  
7 organization.

8 (2) By January 1, 2026, the health care authority shall submit a  
9 status report to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the  
10 legislature detailing the feasibility of an approval for a state plan  
11 amendment as outlined in subsection (1) of this section.

12 (3) This section expires December 31, 2026.

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