
HOUSE BILL 2161

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Representatives Cody, Darneille, Seaquist, and Kenney; by request of Department of Social and Health Services

Read first time 02/11/09. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to support services provided under the maternity
2 care access program; and amending RCW 74.09.790 and 74.09.800.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.09.790 and 1993 c 407 s 9 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
7 this section apply throughout RCW 74.09.760 through 74.09.820 and
8 74.09.510:

9 (1) "At-risk eligible person" means an eligible person determined
10 by the department to need special assistance in applying for and
11 obtaining maternity care, including pregnant women who are substance
12 abusers, pregnant and parenting adolescents, pregnant minority women,
13 and other eligible persons who need special assistance in gaining
14 access to the maternity care system.

15 (2) "County authority" means the board of county commissioners,
16 county council, or county executive having the authority to participate
17 in the maternity care access program or its designee. Two or more
18 county authorities may enter into joint agreements to fulfill the
19 requirements of this chapter.

1 (3) "Department" means the department of social and health
2 services.

3 (4) "Eligible person" means a woman in need of maternity care or
4 a child, who is eligible for medical assistance pursuant to this
5 chapter or the prenatal care program administered by the department.

6 (5) "Maternity care services" means inpatient and outpatient
7 medical care, case management, and support services necessary during
8 prenatal, delivery, and postpartum periods.

9 (6) "Support services" means, at least, public health nursing
10 assessment and follow-up, health and childbirth education,
11 psychological assessment and counseling, outreach services, nutritional
12 assessment and counseling, needed vitamin and nonprescriptive drugs,
13 transportation, and family planning services(~~(, and child care)~~).
14 Support services may include alcohol and substance abuse treatment for
15 pregnant women who are addicted or at risk of being addicted to alcohol
16 or drugs, and child care, to the extent funds are made available for
17 (~~that purpose~~) either of those purposes.

18 (7) "Family planning services" means planning the number of one's
19 children by use of contraceptive techniques.

20 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.09.800 and 1993 c 407 s 10 are each amended to read
21 as follows:

22 The department shall, consistent with the state budget act, develop
23 a maternity care access program designed to ensure healthy birth
24 outcomes as follows:

25 (1) Provide maternity care services to low-income pregnant women
26 and health care services to children in poverty to the maximum extent
27 allowable under the medical assistance program, Title XIX of the
28 federal social security act;

29 (2) Provide maternity care services to low-income women who are not
30 eligible to receive such services under the medical assistance program,
31 Title XIX of the federal social security act;

32 (3) By January 1, 1990, have the following procedures in place to
33 improve access to maternity care services and eligibility
34 determinations for pregnant women applying for maternity care services
35 under the medical assistance program, Title XIX of the federal social
36 security act:

37 (a) Use of a shortened and simplified application form;

- 1 (b) Outstationing department staff to make eligibility
2 determinations;
- 3 (c) Establishing local plans at the county and regional level,
4 coordinated by the department; and
- 5 (d) Conducting an interview for the purpose of determining medical
6 assistance eligibility within five working days of the date of an
7 application by a pregnant woman and making an eligibility determination
8 within fifteen working days of the date of application by a pregnant
9 woman;
- 10 (4) Establish a maternity care case management system that shall
11 assist at-risk eligible persons with obtaining medical assistance
12 benefits and receiving maternity care services, including
13 transportation ((and child care)) services;
- 14 (5) Within available resources, establish appropriate reimbursement
15 levels for maternity care providers;
- 16 (6) Implement a broad-based public education program that stresses
17 the importance of obtaining maternity care early during pregnancy;
- 18 (7) Refer persons eligible for maternity care services under the
19 program established by this section to persons, agencies, or
20 organizations with maternity care service practices that primarily
21 emphasize healthy birth outcomes;
- 22 (8) Provide family planning services including information about
23 the synthetic progestin capsule implant form of contraception, for
24 twelve months immediately following a pregnancy to women who were
25 eligible for medical assistance under the maternity care access program
26 during that pregnancy or who were eligible only for emergency labor and
27 delivery services during that pregnancy; and
- 28 (9) Within available resources, provide family planning services to
29 women who meet the financial eligibility requirements for services
30 under subsections (1) and (2) of this section.

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