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**HOUSE BILL 2419**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2020 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Rude and Macri

1 AN ACT Relating to studying barriers to the use of the Washington  
2 death with dignity act; adding a new section to chapter 70.245 RCW;  
3 and providing an expiration date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 70.245  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) The University of Washington shall conduct a study of the  
8 ability of Washington residents to make use of the rights established  
9 under this chapter. The study shall review the extent to which there  
10 are barriers to achieving full access to the Washington death with  
11 dignity act, including:

12 (a) A lack of awareness of the Washington death with dignity act  
13 and its provisions;

14 (b) Burdens for qualified patients to meet the fifteen-day  
15 waiting period;

16 (c) Concerns that inhibit the participation of health care  
17 providers in the provisions of this chapter;

18 (d) Hospital, medical, hospice, and long-term care providers'  
19 policies that restrict the participation in and the distribution of  
20 information about the provisions of this chapter;

1 (e) Limited geographic access to compounding pharmacies or other  
2 pharmacies that dispense medications under this chapter;

3 (f) Restrictions based on the requirement that the medications  
4 under this chapter be self-administered;

5 (g) Lack of insurance coverage for the services and medications  
6 necessary to participate in the provisions of this chapter;

7 (h) The need for improvements to the data collection system; and

8 (i) Any other barriers identified in the course of performing the  
9 study.

10 (2) By December 1, 2020, the University of Washington shall  
11 report its findings, as well as any legislative or administrative  
12 policy recommendations, to the governor and the committees of the  
13 legislature with jurisdiction over health policy. The report must  
14 protect the confidentiality of the subjects of any data that it  
15 receives from the department of health while conducting its research,  
16 including the names of any qualifying patients and health care  
17 providers.

18 (3) This section expires July 1, 2021.

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