

5321

Sponsor(s): Senators Deccio, Thibaudeau, Wood, Fairley, Strannigan, Kohl, Oke and Winsley

Brief Title: Improving access for oral health care services for rural and underserved populations.

**SB 5321 - DIGEST**

(SEE ALSO PROPOSED 1ST SUB)

Declares an intent of the legislature to provide access to oral health care services to medicaid eligible and low-income families and children and other dentally underserved populations by addressing some identified barriers.

Makes an appropriation of three hundred thousand dollars to carry out the purposes of the act.

Directs the University of Washington school of dentistry's senior dental extern program, dental hygiene degree completion program, and graduate pediatric dental program to continue to serve rural and underserved children through training programs at the Yakima valley farm workers clinic and Yakima neighborhood health services.

Requires the board to target dentists and dental hygienists who wish to practice in remote and underserved areas of the state when allocating funds for the loan repayment and scholarship program.