

---

SENATE BILL 5848

---

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senator Keiser

Read first time 02/04/09. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing annual immunization rates; adding a  
2 new section to chapter 43.70 RCW; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.70 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) It is the intent of the legislature to promote positive health  
7 outcomes for the children of the state by transferring to local health  
8 jurisdictions those funds appropriated to the department of health for  
9 the purpose of administering immunization protection to the citizens of  
10 the state.

11 (2) Funds transferred to local health jurisdictions are for the  
12 purpose of purchasing vaccines, promoting the use of immunization  
13 protection for the reduction of diseases that may be prevented by  
14 vaccines and educating health care providers and patients regarding  
15 their use.

16 (3) It is the goal of the legislature that the department of health  
17 and local health jurisdictions work collaboratively to ensure that  
18 immunization rates are increased annually. Local health jurisdictions

1 are encouraged to collaborate with local providers and nonprofit  
2 organizations to achieve this goal.

3 (4) Funds from the department of health for the purposes described  
4 in this section shall be transferred effective July 1, 2009.

5 (5) Beginning on July 1, 2011, and each year thereafter, local  
6 health jurisdictions shall report to the department of health and the  
7 legislature, the immunization rates for the preceding year. Local  
8 health jurisdictions shall also include in this report a description of  
9 measures taken to improve immunization rates.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
11 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
12 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
13 immediately.

--- END ---