



## 2012 Agency Request Legislation

The Department of Health has developed five agency request bills for the 2012 legislative session:

### **Prescription Monitoring Program – HB 2142/Z-0669.2**

This bill modifies RCW 70.225.020 to eliminate the prohibition against collecting fees from practitioners and pharmacists to fund the PMP. The bill language allows the department to seek grants to pay for the program and collect a fee from prescribers and pharmacists only if grants and/or any general fund moneys provided are not sufficient. RCW 43.70.110 is modified to authorize fees and limit the fee to no more than \$15 a year per license. The initial fee, if necessary, will be \$11. Fees would be assessed against approximately 52,000 health practitioners who prescribe or dispense controlled substances. The professions who would pay the fee are:

- Physicians
- Physician assistants
- Osteopathic physicians
- Osteopathic physicians' assistants
- Naturopaths
- Podiatric physicians
- Optometrists
- Dentists
- Advanced registered nurse practitioners
- Pharmacists

These health practitioners are the primary users of the program and benefit from the program by receiving valuable information for treating their patients.

The department already collects fees from those practitioners and the mechanisms needed to collect this funding are already in place. The fee would be added to the initial license and renewal fees for each profession. The revenue would be placed in an account for operation of the PMP.

### **Fees for Emergency Medical Services Providers – HB 2141/Z-0804.2**

This bill requires the department to establish fees to regulate EMS providers and agencies. The bill also removes from statute the licensing fee exemption for municipal corporations that provide EMS services.

This fee proposal would generate \$988,000 in the current biennium, beginning July 1, 2012. In the 2013–15 biennium proposed fees would generate \$2,014,000. These fees would replace current GFS funding.



### **Low-Level Radioactive Site Use Permit Program – Z-0809.1/ Z-0809.1**

This joint request legislation by Department of Health and Department of Ecology amends chapter 43.200 RCW and chapter 70.98 RCW to transfer the authority for the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Site Use Permit Program from Department of Ecology to Department of Health. This will allow Department of Health to review permit applications and issue the site use permits.

### **Electronic Communication of Prescription Information – Z-0637.3**

This bill aligns state law with Federal standards which allows electronic communication of prescriptions for controlled substances.

- The bill amends RCW 69.50.101 making technical changes to subsection (o) and removing the definition of “electronic communication of prescription information.”
- The bill amends RCW 69.50.308 making technical changes to clarify that subsections (b) through (d) do not apply to electronically communicated prescription information. The bill adds a new subsection (e) emphasizing that refill are not permitted on Schedule II and adds a new subsection (f) to explicitly state refill restrictions on Schedules III or IV controlled substance prescriptions.
- The bill amends RCW 69.50.312 making technical changes to include controlled substance Schedules where applicable. The bill adds reference to appropriate Code of Federal Regulations which establish standards for systems used for electronically communicated prescriptions information.

### **Developmental Disabilities Endowment Fund – Z-0821.1/ Z-0861.1**

This joint request legislation by the Department of Commerce and Department of Health transfers the staff and administrative support of the developmental disabilities endowment governing board from the Department of Health to the Department of Commerce. The developmental disabilities endowment governing board is established to design and administer the developmental disabilities endowment.

#### **For More Information**

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