

Executive Summary: Health Impact Review of SB 6128

Extending coverage during the postpartum period (2020 Legislative Session)

Evidence indicates that SB 6128 would likely increase access to health insurance for income-eligible individuals who are pregnant or postpartum, which may increase access to and use of healthcare services, improve health outcomes, and decrease health inequities.

BILL INFORMATION

Sponsors: Randall, Darneille, Dhingra, Frockt, Hasegawa, Hunt, Kuderer, Lovelett, Salomon, Stanford, Van De Wege, Nguyen, Wilson, C.

Summary of Bill:

- Directs Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) to provide 12 months of medical assistance to individuals who are postpartum and reside in Washington State, have countable income equal to or below 193% of the federal poverty level, and are not otherwise eligible under Title XIX of the Federal Social Security Act.
- Specifies the amount and scope of healthcare services provided must be the same as that provided to individuals who are pregnant and postpartum under medical assistance, as defined in RCW 74.09.520 (Medical assistance—Care and services included—Funding limitations).
- Directs HCA to submit a waiver request to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to allow for the state to receive federal match for coverage outlined and to submit a report to the Legislature on the status of the request by December 1, 2020. Specifies that HCA shall provide coverage to all eligible individuals regardless of federal approval of the waiver request.

HEALTH IMPACT REVIEW

Summary of Findings:

This Health Impact Review found the following evidence for provisions in SB 6128:

- **Informed assumption** that HCA extending coverage under Apple Health for Pregnant Women plans from 60 days to 12 months postpartum would increase access to health insurance. This is based on insurance eligibility and information from key informants.
- **Very strong evidence** that increased access to health insurance would improve health outcomes.
- **Very strong evidence** that increased access to health insurance would increase access to and use of healthcare services.
- **Very strong evidence** that increased access to and use of healthcare services would improve health outcomes.
- **Very strong evidence** that improved health outcomes would decrease health inequities.

FULL REVIEW

For review methods, logic model, strength-of-evidence analyses, and citations of empirical evidence refer to the full Health Impact Review at

<https://sboh.wa.gov/Portals/7/Doc/HealthImpactReviews/HIR-2020-07-SB6128.pdf>

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