



Health Impact Review Request Form

Date of request: 01/06/2022

Requester: Senator Randall

Note: Health impact reviews may only be requested by the Governor or a legislator.

Staff Contact: Name: Sarah Meyers

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What is the subject of the Health Impact Review?

- Bill** Number: SB 5551 Title: Concerning Medicaid coverage for HIV antiviral drugs
- Bill Draft** Draft Number: _____
- Decision Package** *If possible, please attach a copy of the relevant portion/aspect of what you are requesting to be reviewed.*
- Budget Proposal**
- Other:** _____

Should the Health Impact Review analyze the entire proposal or only a portion?

- Entire** **Portion**

If only a portion, please describe what portion(s) the review should analyze.

Requested completion date: 01/17/2022

If requesting less than a ten-day turnaround during session or less than a 60-day turnaround during the interim, please explain the reasons for the request (for example, needing a review completed in time for a committee hearing).

Please consider completing the optional section on the back of this form, which will give the Board a sense of why this review has been requested.

Washington State Board of Health

PO Box 47990 • Olympia, WA 98504-7990 • Phone: 360-236-4110 • Fax: 360-236-4088

Email: HIR@doh.wa.gov • Web site: sboh.wa.gov

~ Optional ~

Please consider completing this optional section, which will give the Board a sense of why this review has been requested.

NOTE: When conducting a health impact review, the Washington State Board of Health will consider various ways that a proposal might exacerbate or ameliorate health disparities. Completing this section will give the Board a head start by helping it understand the reasons why a review is being requested.

Briefly describe how you think the proposal might impact health disparities and whether you believe the impact will be in a positive or negative direction.

Treatment is prevention for HIV. DOH data shows that approx. 20% of people living with HIV/AIDS in WA are not virally suppressed and able to spread/infect others. Adherence to medical treatment plans, including access to medications that meet an individual's needs, is HIV prevention. The cost associated with an individual NOT adhering to their medications can be far reaching and include the serious public health concerns. Unlike other state PDLs, access to many antivirals (including single dose) for our Medicaid clients requires a complicated prior authorization process. Delays and/or not having clients on the proper meds can lead to increased viral loads, increased costs, and additional positive cases in WA. Medicaid clients often have complex needs and barriers to being successful on treatment plans. SB 5551 removes one of those barriers by allowing individuals to quickly access the drug treatments their medical provider believes is best suited for them.

Are there specific organizations or community groups you would like the Board to contact as part of this review if time allows?

**Cascade AIDS Project
Equal Rights Washington**

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