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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6486**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2020 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Health & Long Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Rivers, Short, Brown, and Becker)

1 AN ACT Relating to expanding medicaid coverage for individuals  
2 with a rare disease; adding a new section to chapter 74.09 RCW; and  
3 creating new sections.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 74.09  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) Beginning January 1, 2021, the authority shall provide health  
8 coverage to individuals who:

9 (a) Have been diagnosed with a rare disease; and

10 (b) Are not eligible for categorically needy medical assistance  
11 as defined in the social security Title XIX state plan.

12 (2) The amount, scope, and duration of health care services  
13 provided to individuals under this section must be the same as that  
14 provided to individuals eligible for categorically needy medical  
15 assistance. The authority shall manage its application and renewal  
16 procedures so as to maximize enrollment of eligible individuals.

17 (3) The authority shall seek federal funding, as available, to  
18 defray state costs associated with providing coverage to persons  
19 under this section.

1 (4) For purposes of this section, "rare disease" means any  
2 disease or condition that affects less than two hundred thousand  
3 persons in the United States.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The health care authority shall submit a  
5 waiver request to the federal centers for medicare and medicaid  
6 services to allow for the state to receive federal match for the  
7 coverage of persons diagnosed with a rare disease identified in  
8 section 1 of this act. The authority shall provide coverage to all  
9 eligible persons diagnosed with a rare disease identified under  
10 section 1 of this act regardless of federal approval of the waiver  
11 request. The authority shall report to the legislature on the status  
12 of the waiver request by December 1, 2020, and inform the legislature  
13 of any statutory changes necessary to allow the state to receive  
14 federal match for the coverage of persons diagnosed with a rare  
15 disease identified in section 1 of this act.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The health care authority must pursue a  
17 state plan amendment under the tax equity and fiscal responsibility  
18 act of 1982, P.L. 97-248, Sec. 134, to receive a federal match for  
19 coverage of persons diagnosed with a rare disease identified in  
20 section 1 of this act.

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