

(Authorizing Legislation for the Task Force)

ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1109 – State Operating Budget
Chapter 415, Laws of 2019

Sec. 221, Subsection 7

(7)(a) \$285,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2020 and \$15,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2021 are provided solely for the governor's interagency coordinating council on health disparities to establish a task force to develop a proposal for the creation of an office of equity. The purpose of the office of equity is to promote access to equitable opportunities and resources that reduce disparities, including racial and ethnic disparities, and improve outcomes statewide across all sectors of government. The council must provide staff support and coordinate community and stakeholder outreach for the task force.

(b) The task force shall include:

- (i) The chair of the interagency coordinating council on health disparities, or the chair's designee, who shall serve as the chair of the task force;
- (ii) Two members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;
- (iii) Two members from the senate, appointed by the president of the senate;
- (iv) A representative from the office of the governor, appointed by the governor;
- (v) A representative from the office of financial management's diversity, equity, and inclusion council, appointed by the governor;
- (vi) A representative from the office of minority and women's business enterprises, appointed by the director of the office of minority and women's business enterprises;
- (vii) A representative from each ethnic commission, appointed by the director of each respective commission;
- (viii) A representative from the women's commission, appointed by the director of the commission;
- (ix) A representative from the human rights commission, appointed by the director of the commission;
- (x) The director of the governor's office of Indian affairs, or the director's designee;

(xi) A member of the disability community, appointed by the chair of the governor's committee on disability issues and employment; and

(xii) A member of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer community, appointed by the office of the governor.

(c) The task force must submit a preliminary report to the governor and legislature by December 15, 2019. The task force must submit a final proposal to the governor and the legislature by July 1, 2020. The final proposal must include the following recommendations:

(i) A mission statement and vision statement for the office;

(ii) A definition of "equity," which must be used by the office to guide its work;

(iii) The organizational structure of the office, which must include a community liaison for the office;

(iv) A plan to engage executive level management from all agencies;

(v) Mechanisms for facilitating state policy and systems change to promote equity, promoting community outreach and engagement, and establishing standards for the collection, analysis, and reporting of disaggregated data regarding race and ethnicity;

(vi) Mechanisms for accountability to ensure that performance measures around equity are met across all agencies, including recommendations on audits of agencies and other accountability tools as deemed appropriate; and

(vii) A budget proposal including estimates for costs and staffing.

(d) Nonlegislative members of the task force must be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060. Legislative members must be reimbursed for expenses incurred in accordance with RCW 44.04.120.