



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS
(OCHS) **HR 1 LISTENING SESSION**

September 10, 2025

Agenda

- **Overview of HR 1 and anticipated impact**
- **Outline proactive approach**
 - From a health care facility/Emergency Care System (ECS) lens
- **Collect feedback from partners**
- **Next steps**

Where Are We Within DOH



Office of the Secretary of Health
Dennis Worsham
 Secretary of Health



Executive Leadership Team Offices & Functions

**Office of
Chief of Staff**



Jessica Todorovich

- Adjudicative Services
- Budget, Finance, Contracts
- Communications
- Data & System Modernization
- Health Education & Promotion
- Innovation & Technology
- People & Culture
- Project Management
- Risk Management & Business Services

**Office of
Prevention, Safety &
Health**



Lacy Fehrenbach

- Behavioral Health & Wellness
- Healthcare Access
- Health Systems Quality Assurance
- Prevention & Community Health

**Office of
Health & Science**



VACANT

- Disease Control & Health Statistics
- Environmental Public Health
- Public Health Laboratories
- Global to Local Innovations
- One Health & Veterinary Science
- Environmental & Medical Science
- Vital Records & Health Statistics
- Disease Surveillance & Emerging Threats

**Office of
Policy, Planning &
Evaluation**



Kristin Peterson

- Academic Partnerships
- Community Relations & Equity
- Economic Analysis & Evaluation
- Government Relations
- Policy, Performance, & Strategic Planning
- Public Health Law
- Regulatory & Legislative Leadership
- Systems Transformation
- Tribal Public Health

**Office of
Resilience & Health
Security**



Nate Weed

- Administrative Preparedness
- Emergency Logistics
- Emergency Response Coordination
- Preparedness Grants & Contracts
- Readiness & Preparedness
- Resiliency & Recovery
- State Emergency Medical Reserve Corps
- Healthcare Analytics, Readiness, and Preparedness

State Health Officer



Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett

- Public Health Medical Sciences
- Epidemiology Practice, Equity & Assessment
- Public Health Informatics

OCHS – Who We Are and What We Do



Certificate of Need



Construction Review Services



Facilities Regulation

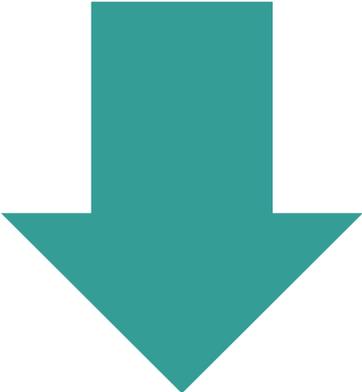


Charity Care and Hospital Financial Reporting



Emergency Care System

OCHS' Role in Health Care Regulation



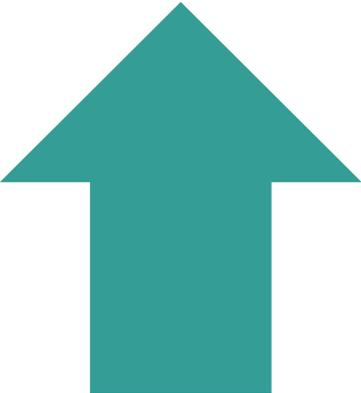
Patient
safety



17,000+ EMS
professionals



Access
to care



13,000+ facilities

Overview of HR1

- HR1 (The One Big Beautiful Bill OBBB) was signed by President Trump on July 4, 2025.
- HR1 will transform the health care delivery system. This bill limits or restricts access to a variety of critical public health programs, from Medicaid coverage to food and nutrition safety net programs. Impacts to Washingtonians will be sweeping.
- The bill also included a federal \$50 billion **Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP)** to improve rural health care across the country.



Impact of HR1

HR 1 restricts eligibility to Medicaid.

- Washington will lose between \$31 billion and \$51 billion in federal Medicaid dollars over the next 10 years.
- At least 250,000 Washingtonians (about 26% of current Medicaid recipients) will lose Medicaid coverage.
- Hospitals that provide care for the 26% of Washingtonians that are expected to lose Medicaid coverage may ultimately experience an annual decrease of \$8.2 billion to patient services revenue.
 - Estimates indicate Washington hospitals will lose approximately \$5.4 billion per year in lost Medicaid payments and will provide an additional \$2.7 billion in free care.
- Overall, Washington anticipates a doubling of the state's uninsured rate (which is currently 4.8%).
- Rural communities will be especially impacted. 70-90% of children in Central Washington, Yakima, and Adams County are on Medicaid.

Impact of HR1

HR1 cuts approximately \$300 billion to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

- Approximately 1 million Washingtonians receive SNAP.
- It is estimated that 130,000 Washingtonians will lose their SNAP benefits in 2026 as a result of changes to eligibility.
- Every Washingtonian on SNAP will see benefits reduced under the Thrifty Food Plan by about \$56 per month.
- WA state will face millions in additional administrative costs associated with the program starting in fiscal year 2027 (changes from 50/50 to 75/25.)
- Eliminates SNAP-Ed.



Impact of HR1

HR 1 restricts access to reproductive services.

- The bill includes a provision that blocks Medicaid reimbursements for healthcare services obtained at Planned Parenthood health centers, including cancer screenings, birth control, and testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections.
- On July 9, Governor Bob Ferguson committed to funding these services through state resources.
- On July 29, Attorney General Nick Brown joined a multi-state lawsuit to block this provision from going into effect, and the motion was granted.



Anticipated Implications of HR 1 (Health Care Facility/ECS Lens)

The impact of HR 1 will be felt across the health care and public health landscape (not an exhaustive list)

- **Loss of Medicaid Coverage 200 – 320k Washingtonians**
- Decreased preventative care
- Increased burden on ED
- Hospital compression
- Impact on EMS & Trauma services
- Impact on post acute care
- Impact on access to OB care
- Impact on nursing homes
- Impact on business operations
- Impact on charity care
- **Others?**



Mitigation Strategies (Health Care Facility/ECS Lens)

Are there steps the state and health care partners can take now to prepare for/mitigate the impact of HR 1?

- Sustain strong partnerships
- Ensure strong and consistent communication
- Rural Health Transformation Funds (HCA/Rural Health Team)
 - [Rural Health Transformation Program | Washington State Health Care Authority](#)
- Changes to state law
- Use of waivers for short-term stability
 - E.g., “medical surge waivers”
- Provide TA for use of existing facility space in new or innovative ways
- **Other ideas?**



Q&A

- What concerns do you have that were not discussed today?
- What proactive mitigation strategies do you believe we should be considering (health care facility/ECS lens)?
- What additional steps should we be considering to help maintain access to care and a healthy Washington?

How To Connect With Us: Washington State Department of Health

- OCHS Leadership Team Contacts
 - ian.corbridge@doh.wa.gov
- Hospital Charity Care & Financial Reporting
 - charitycare@doh.wa.gov and hos@doh.wa.gov
- Emergency Care System
 - Catie.holstein@doh.wa.gov
- Facilities Program
 - OCHSFacilities@doh.wa.gov
- Construction Review Services
 - CRS@doh.wa.gov
- Certificate of Need Program
 - CN@doh.wa.gov