

1 AN ACT Relating to authorizing the medicaid expansion while  
2 ensuring state financial protections; adding a new section to chapter  
3 74.09 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that the federal  
6 patient protection and affordable care act provides an opportunity to  
7 expand medicaid to adults with incomes below one hundred thirty-three  
8 percent of the federal poverty level, as defined in the social security  
9 act section 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII). The federal law establishes the  
10 eligibility requirements and benefit requirements for the medicaid  
11 expansion to align with the subsidized coverage options that will be  
12 available through the health benefit exchange and provide a continuum  
13 of coverage options for low-income individuals.

14 (2) The federal patient protection and affordable care act provides  
15 an enhanced federal matching rate of one hundred percent for the  
16 medicaid expansion population, with a scheduled decline in the match  
17 rate to ninety percent. The legislature finds the decline in the  
18 federal match rate to be of particular concern and it is therefore the  
19 intent of the legislature to create a circuit breaker.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 74.09 RCW  
2 to read as follows:

3        (1) The authority is authorized to implement the medicaid expansion  
4 defined in section 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(VIII) of the federal social  
5 security act, consistent with budget authorization provided in the  
6 omnibus appropriations act, as long as the federal medical assistance  
7 percentages defined in section 1905(y) of the federal social security  
8 act remain at the levels outlined in law. A circuit breaker is created  
9 to ensure the state budget is not adversely impacted by the federal  
10 government.

11        (2) If the federal medical assistance percentage for the expansion  
12 falls below ninety percent, the authority shall ensure that the state  
13 does not incur any additional costs above what would have been incurred  
14 had the federal authority remained at ninety percent. The director is  
15 authorized to make any necessary program adjustments to comply with  
16 this requirement, including adding or adjusting premiums, modifying  
17 benefits, or reducing optional programs.

18        (3) To the extent a waiver is needed to accomplish this, the  
19 director shall promptly apply for such waiver. If a waiver is not  
20 approved, the expansion program shall be closed upon appropriate  
21 notification to the legislature and enrollees.

--- END ---