

Dental Therapy Task Force

\$50,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2022 is provided solely for a grant to the Pierce county center for dispute resolution to convene a task force, staffed by the Pierce county center for dispute resolution, to review and make recommendations on bringing the current practice of dental therapy on tribal lands to a statewide scale, and on the practice, supervision, and practice settings needed to maximize the effectiveness of dental therapy. The Pierce county center for dispute resolution must submit a report to the legislature by December 1, 2021.

(a) Members of the task force must include:

(i) Three representatives from different organizations that represent individuals or underserved communities, including but not limited to children, seniors, African Americans, Latino Americans, Native Americans, Pacific Islander Americans, and low income and rural communities;

(ii) One member of the dental quality assurance commission;

(iii) One representative from the University of Washington school of dentistry;

(iv) One member from the Washington state dental association;

(v) One member from the Washington state dental hygienists' association;

(vi) One dental therapist;

(vii) One dentist who has or is currently supervising a dental therapist or therapists;

(viii) One representative from a dental only integrated delivery system;

(ix) One representative from an urban Indian health clinic;

(x) One representative from a federally qualified health center or the Washington association for community health;

(xi) One representative from a dental therapy education program;

(xii) One representative from a Washington tribe that currently employs dental therapists; and

(xiii) One representative from a labor union representing care providers that has experience providing dental coverage and promoting dental care among their members.

(b) In addition, members of the task force may include members from the legislature as follows:

(i) The president of the senate may appoint one member from each of the two largest caucuses of the senate; and

(ii) The speaker of the house of representatives may appoint one member from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of representatives.