

## RCWs related to scoliosis screening

### **RCW 28A.210.180**

#### **Screening program for scoliosis — Purpose.**

The legislature recognizes that the condition known as scoliosis, a lateral curvature of the spine commonly appearing in adolescents, can develop into a permanent, crippling disability if left untreated. Early diagnosis and referral can often result in the successful treatment of this condition and greatly reduce the need for major surgery. Therefore, the purpose of RCW 28A.210.180 through 28A.210.250 is to recognize that a school screening program is an invaluable tool for detecting the number of adolescents with scoliosis. It is the intent of the legislature to insure that the superintendent of public instruction provide and require screening of children for the condition known as scoliosis, to ascertain which, if any, of these children have defects requiring corrective treatment.

[1991 c 86 § 1; 1990 c 33 § 201; 1985 c 216 § 1; 1979 c 47 § 1. Formerly RCW 28A.31.130.]

Notes: Severability -- 1979 c 47: "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1979 c 47 § 8.]

### **RCW 28A.210.190**

#### **Screening program for scoliosis — Definitions.**

As used in RCW 28A.210.180 through 28A.210.250, the following terms have the meanings indicated.

- (1) "Superintendent" means the superintendent of public instruction of public schools in the state, or the superintendent's designee.
- (2) "Pupil" means a student enrolled in the public school system in the state.
- (3) "Scoliosis" includes idiopathic scoliosis and kyphosis.
- (4) "Screening" means an examination to be performed for the purpose of detecting the condition known as scoliosis.
- (5) "Public schools" means the common schools referred to in Article IX of the state Constitution and those schools and institutions of learning having a curriculum below the college or university level as now or may be established by law and maintained at public expense.

[1991 c 86 § 2; 1990 c 33 § 202; 1985 c 216 § 2; 1979 c 47 § 2. Formerly RCW 28A.31.132.]

Notes: Severability -- 1979 c 47: See note following RCW 28A.210.180.

### **RCW 28A.210.200**

#### **Screening program for scoliosis — Examination of children — Personnel making examinations, training for.**

The superintendent shall provide for and require the examination of children attending public schools at least three times between grades four and eleven in accordance with procedures and standards adopted by rule of the state board of health in cooperation with the superintendent of public instruction and the department of health. The examination shall be made by a school physician, school nurse, qualified licensed health practitioner, or physical education instructor or by other school personnel. Proper training of the personnel in the screening process for scoliosis shall be provided by the superintendent.

[1991 c 86 § 3; 1990 c 33 § 203; 1985 c 216 § 3; 1979 c 47 § 3. Formerly RCW 28A.31.134.]

Notes: Severability -- 1979 c 47: See note following RCW 28A.210.180.

### **RCW 28A.210.210**

#### **Screening program for scoliosis — Records — Parents or guardians notification, contents.**

Every person performing the screening under RCW 28A.210.200 shall promptly prepare a record of the screening of each child found to have or suspected of having scoliosis and shall send copies of the records to the parents or guardians of the children. The notification shall include an explanation of scoliosis, the significance of treating it at an early stage, and the services generally available from a qualified licensed health practitioner for the treatment after diagnosis.

[1990 c 33 § 204; 1985 c 216 § 4; 1979 c 47 § 4. Formerly RCW 28A.31.136.]

Notes: Severability -- 1979 c 47: See note following RCW 28A.210.180.

### **RCW 28A.210.220**

#### **Screening program for scoliosis — Distribution of rules, records and forms.**

The superintendent shall print and distribute to appropriate school officials the rules adopted by the state board of health in cooperation with the superintendent of public instruction under RCW 28A.210.200 and the recommended records and forms to be used in making and reporting the screenings.

[1990 c 33 § 205; 1979 c 47 § 5. Formerly RCW 28A.31.138.]

Notes: Severability -- 1979 c 47: See note following RCW 28A.210.180.

### **RCW 28A.210.240**

#### **Screening program for scoliosis — Pupils exempt, when.**

Any pupil shall be exempt from the examination upon written request of his or her parent or guardian if the parent or guardian certifies that:

- (1) The screening conflicts with the philosophical or religious beliefs; or
- (2) The student is presently under the care of a health care provider for spinal curvature or a related medical condition.

[1985 c 216 § 5; 1979 c 47 § 6. Formerly RCW 28A.31.140.]

Notes: Severability -- 1979 c 47: See note following RCW 28A.210.180.

### **RCW 28A.210.250**

#### **Screening program for scoliosis — Sanctions against school officials failing to comply.**

The superintendent may establish appropriate sanctions to be applied to any school officials of the state failing to comply with RCW 28A.210.200 through 28A.210.240 which sanctions may include withholding of any portion of state aid to the district until such time as compliance is assured.

[1990 c 33 § 207; 1979 c 47 § 7. Formerly RCW 28A.31.142.]

Notes: Severability -- 1979 c 47: See note following RCW 28A.210.180.