

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE

Department:	Dept. Contact:	CBO Contact:
Mayor's Office	Kate Hoffman	Adam Schaefer

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to reaffirming The City of Seattle as a Welcoming City; supporting access to reproductive health care services and gender-affirming treatment in Seattle; extending the responsibility of City employees to protect the provision of reproductive health care services and gender-affirming treatment; and adding a new Chapter 14.115 to the Seattle Municipal Code.

Summary and Background of the Legislation as introduced: This legislation reaffirms that the City of Seattle seeks to provide a safe and welcoming environment for those who reside in or visit our city, including 2SLGBTQIA+ people, people seeking protected health services, immigrants, refugees, and other historically marginalized communities. The legislation codifies relevant sections of Washington State's Shield law, which protects the provision of reproductive health care services and gender-affirming treatment, into the SMC and extends that law's application to City employees to demonstrate its commitment to protecting the rights and liberties of its residents and providing all with access to the City services.

Governance, Accountability & Economic Development Committee Amendment: On March 13, 2025, the Governance, Accountability & Economic Development Committee approved the following amendment to this legislation, and passed CB 120950 out of committee as amended:

- Amendment 1: Removes Section 14.115.030 Subpoena – Quashing and instead creates recitals that identify the Washington State code provisions authorizing residents of Washington State to avail themselves of courts of competent jurisdiction to assert their rights under Washington State's Shield Law.

Full Council Amendments: On March 25, 2025, the Council approved the following amendments to this legislation, and passed CB 120950 as amended:

- Amendment A: Defines the term "assistance," which is used in this bill and in state law but is currently undefined. Adds agents of City agencies, commissions, boards, or departments to the prohibition on cooperation with or provision of information related to protected health care services.
- Amendment C: Requires the Office of Intergovernmental Relations to notify the Council of any future proposed and/or adopted changes to the State Shield Law.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?

Yes No

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City? Yes No

3.d. Other Impacts

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to The City of Seattle, including direct or indirect, one-time or ongoing costs, that are not included in Sections 3.a through 3.c? If so, please describe these financial impacts.

No.

If the legislation has costs, but they can be absorbed within existing operations, please describe how those costs can be absorbed. The description should clearly describe if the absorbed costs are achievable because the department had excess resources within their existing budget or if by absorbing these costs the department is deprioritizing other work that would have used these resources.

The City Attorney's Office is responsible for enforcing this law. It is projected to be unlikely that additional resources will be required to support that effort, but in the event that they are, the department will document them in a future budget request.

Please describe any financial costs or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation.

There is no direct financial cost of not implementing the legislation.

Please describe how this legislation may affect any City departments other than the originating department.

All City departments and employees will be expected to comply with the law. The City Attorney's Office is responsible for enforcing this law.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

a. Is a public hearing required for this legislation?

No.

b. Is publication of notice with The Daily Journal of Commerce and/or The Seattle Times required for this legislation?

No.

c. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?

No.

d. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative.

- i. How does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you arrive at this conclusion? In your response please consider impacts within City government (employees, internal programs) as well as in the broader community.**

This ordinance uplifts policies to protect the rights of historically disadvantaged and vulnerable communities, including immigrants and refugees, 2SLGBTQIA+ people, and people pursuing reproductive health care services or gender-affirming treatment.

Further, this legislation extends that law's application to City employees to demonstrate its commitment to protecting the rights and liberties of its residents and providing all with access to the City services.

- ii. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses in the development and/or assessment of the legislation.**

N/A

- iii. What is the Language Access Plan for any communications to the public?**

N/A

e. Climate Change Implications

- i. Emissions: How is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way? Please attach any studies or other materials that were used to inform this response.**

N/A

- ii. Resiliency: Will the action(s) proposed by this legislation increase or decrease Seattle's resiliency (or ability to adapt) to climate change in a material way? If so, explain. If it is likely to decrease resiliency in a material way, describe what will or could be done to mitigate the effects.**

N/A

- f. If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program's desired goal(s)? What mechanisms will be used to measure progress towards meeting those goals?**

N/A

- g. Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP project that involves a shared financial commitment with a non-City partner agency or organization?**

No.

5. ATTACHMENTS

Summary Attachments: None.