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SENATE BILL 6241

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2012 Regular Session

By Senators Pridemore, Keiser, Harper, and Nelson

Read first time 01/16/12. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

- AN ACT Relating to prescription drug benefits; and adding a new section to chapter 48.43 RCW.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

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- 4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 48.43 RCW 5 to read as follows:
 - (1)(a) A health carrier that provides coverage for prescription drugs shall provide a single limit on out-of-pocket expenses in all of its health plans. All out-of-pocket expenses incurred by a covered person for medical services, surgical services, mental health services, or prescription drugs shall be included in the limit. The out-of-pocket limit required by this subsection may not exceed five thousand nine hundred fifty dollars for plans that cover a single enrollee or eleven thousand nine hundred dollars for plans that cover more than one enrollee. In July 2013 and every July thereafter, the insurance commissioner shall adjust the out-of-pocket limits in this subsection to reflect the percentage change in the consumer price index for medical care for a preceding twelve months, as determined by the United States department of labor. The adjusted amounts shall apply on the following January 1st.

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- 1 (b) This subsection (1) does not apply to catastrophic health 2 plans.
- 3 (2) This section applies to health plans delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on or after January 1, 2013.

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