
ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 1876

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Representatives Dyer and Dellwo

Read first time 02/13/95. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to the modification of provisions governing
2 certified health plans providing dental benefits only; adding a new
3 section to chapter 48.01 RCW; repealing RCW 48.01.210 and 43.72.110;
4 providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 48.01 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 (1) An insurer, health care service contractor, or health
9 maintenance organization that offers coverage for dental services and
10 that currently holds a certificate of authority or certificate of
11 registration issued by the insurance commissioner under chapter 48.05,
12 48.44, or 48.46 RCW may provide coverage for dental services as
13 authorized by chapter 48.05, 48.44, or 48.46 RCW and as provided in
14 this section. Such a company is deemed certified and registered as a
15 certified health plan under RCW 43.72.090 and 48.43.010 for the
16 delivery of coverage for dental services. The Washington health
17 services commission and the insurance commissioner shall adopt
18 standards and procedures to permit, upon request, the prompt
19 certification and registration of such a company, and the issuance of

1 a certificate as a certified health plan. Such a certification and
2 registration only authorizes the company to provide coverage for dental
3 services and does not subject the company to requirements applicable to
4 certified health plans except as specifically provided in this section.
5 Such a company shall be known as a "Dental-Only CHP." The legislature
6 does not intend by creating this designation to convey a market
7 advantage over certified health plans providing coverage for dental
8 services.

9 (2) A Dental-Only CHP may provide coverage for dental services to
10 individuals, to employers for the benefit of employees or for the
11 benefit of employees and their dependents, and to other persons,
12 entities, and agencies authorized by law to purchase health care
13 services from, or enroll in, a certified health plan. A Dental-Only
14 CHP may provide such coverage by separate policy, contract, or rider
15 issued directly to the purchaser, or it may subcontract to a certified
16 health plan that provides the dental coverage as part of the uniform
17 benefits package, supplemental benefits, or other arrangement delivered
18 to the purchaser.

19 (3) If an individual, employer, or other purchaser purchases
20 coverage for dental services from a Dental-Only CHP and that coverage
21 is part of the uniform benefits package or supplemental benefits
22 designed by the Washington health services commission and regulated by
23 the commissioner, or part of a state-managed program of health care
24 coverages, a certified health plan may provide to the purchaser the
25 other coverages comprising the balance of the uniform benefits package,
26 supplemental benefits, or state-managed program, by separate policy,
27 contract, or rider. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an
28 individual, employer, or other purchaser may purchase coverage for
29 dental services in the uniform benefits package, supplemental benefits,
30 or state-managed program from a Dental-Only CHP and concurrently
31 purchase the balance of the required coverages separately from a
32 certified health plan. To foster such concurrent purchases, the
33 Washington health services commission and the commissioner shall
34 develop and enforce separate cost containment and filing systems and
35 procedures for dental coverages and other coverages, including separate
36 community-rated premium submaximums and enrollee financial
37 participation submaximums.

38 (4) A Dental-Only CHP shall fully comply with all applicable laws
39 under chapter 48.05, 48.44, or 48.46 RCW governing the financial

1 supervision and solvency of such organizations, including but not
2 limited to applicable laws concerning capital and surplus requirements,
3 reserves, deposits, bonds, and indemnities. In the sale of coverage
4 for dental services that is part of the uniform benefits package, a
5 Dental-Only CHP shall comply with all applicable administrative rules
6 prescribed by the health services commission, the insurance
7 commissioner, and other state agencies governing certified health plans
8 under RCW 43.72.100. The sale of dental coverages that are part of
9 supplemental benefits are not subject to RCW 43.72.100, 43.72.160, or
10 43.72.170.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The following acts or parts of acts are each
12 repealed:

- 13 (1) RCW 48.01.210 and 1993 c 462 s 51; and
14 (2) RCW 43.72.110 and 1993 c 492 s 429.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
16 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
17 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
18 effect July 1, 1995.

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