
SENATE BILL 5874

State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senators C. Anderson, Quigley, Moyer, Deccio, Wojahn, Wood, Franklin, Winsley, Fairley and Kohl

Read first time 02/10/95. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to the education and training of physicians, nurse
2 practitioners, and physician assistants; adding a new section to
3 chapter 48.01 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 28B.20 RCW; and
4 creating a new section.

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 All health plans as defined by RCW 48.41.030 shall not preclude
9 enrollees in the plan from selecting the state's teaching and training
10 institutions, the University of Washington School of Medicine,
11 Harborview medical center, or the University of Washington medical
12 center if the enrollee and his or her health provider concur that
13 services provided would be in the best interest of the enrollee. This
14 option shall be available to all enrollees and shall not be constrained
15 unreasonably by charges, fees, or copayments, or by application or
16 appeal procedures.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The legislature finds that the viability of
18 medical student education in the clinical setting is in jeopardy. An

1 interim committee consisting of four legislators, two appointed by the
2 senate leaders of each major party and two appointed by the house of
3 representatives leaders of each major party, shall study this matter
4 and report to the legislature by December 1, 1995. The University of
5 Washington's school of medicine shall provide technical support with
6 assistance from national organizations with expertise in medical
7 education.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The health education account is created
9 in the custody of the state treasurer for the purpose of training the
10 following categories of health providers: (a) Physicians licensed
11 under chapters 18.71 and 18.57 RCW; (b) nurse practitioners; and (c)
12 physician assistants.

13 (2)(a) Support of health provider education is essential to the
14 health of the people of the state of Washington. In order to produce
15 highly qualified and well-trained providers and to place the providers
16 in communities that have too few providers, state funds now paid to
17 providers for health provider education through the health care
18 authority under the uniform medical plan and through managed care
19 contracts shall be deposited into the health education account.

20 (b) The proportion of health care authority funds currently paid to
21 hospitals under the uniform medical plan for health education shall be
22 deposited into the health education account, on a monthly basis. In
23 addition, a similar proportion of health care authority funds expended
24 on managed care contracts also shall be deposited into the health
25 education account. The proportion of funds deposited under this
26 subsection shall not be reduced from the established level on January
27 1, 1995.

28 (c) Only the dean of the University of Washington school of
29 medicine or the dean's designee may authorize expenditures from the
30 account. No appropriation is required for expenditures.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) There is established the health
32 education advisory consortium, comprised of nine members with the dean
33 of the University of Washington school of medicine serving as the
34 chair. Membership is as follows:

35 (a) Dean of the University of Washington school of medicine;

36 (b) Two members of the public;

37 (c) One member representing nurse practitioner training programs;

- 1 (d) One member representing physician assistant training programs;
2 (e) One member representing physician training programs;
3 (f) One member representing teaching hospitals; and
4 (g) Two members representing health plans.

5 The governor shall appoint the consortium members. At least one
6 public appointee shall be an individual with experience both in the
7 practice of primary care medicine and with medical education. The dean
8 of the University of Washington school of medicine shall serve on a
9 permanent basis; terms for consortium members shall be staggered four-
10 year terms, as established by the governor.

11 (2) The consortium shall study the need for stabilizing primary
12 care health education funding. The consortium shall recommend
13 distributions from the health education account annually to the chair.
14 The consortium shall report to the governor and legislature annually by
15 December 1 of each year.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 3 and 4 of this act are each added
17 to chapter 28B.20 RCW.

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