
SENATE BILL 6059

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Senators Strannigan and Prentice; by request of Health Care Authority

Read first time 03/12/97. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to basic health plan agents' and brokers'
2 commissions; and amending RCW 70.47.015.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.47.015 and 1995 c 265 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The legislature finds that the basic health plan has been an
7 effective program in providing health coverage for uninsured residents.
8 Further, since 1993, substantial amounts of public funds have been
9 allocated for subsidized basic health plan enrollment.

10 (2) It is the intent of the legislature that the basic health plan
11 enrollment be expanded expeditiously, consistent with funds available
12 in the health services account, with the goal of two hundred thousand
13 adult subsidized basic health plan enrollees and one hundred thirty
14 thousand children covered through expanded medical assistance services
15 by June 30, 1997, with the priority of providing needed health services
16 to children in conjunction with other public programs.

17 (3) Effective January 1, 1996, basic health plan enrollees whose
18 income is less than one hundred twenty-five percent of the federal
19 poverty level shall pay at least a ten-dollar premium share.

1 (4) No later than July 1, 1996, the administrator shall implement
2 procedures whereby hospitals licensed under chapters 70.41 and 71.12
3 RCW, health carrier, rural health care facilities regulated under
4 chapter 70.175 RCW, and community and migrant health centers funded
5 under RCW 41.05.220, may expeditiously assist patients and their
6 families in applying for basic health plan or medical assistance
7 coverage, and in submitting such applications directly to the health
8 care authority or the department of social and health services. The
9 health care authority and the department of social and health services
10 shall make every effort to simplify and expedite the application and
11 enrollment process.

12 ~~((5) No later than July 1, 1996, the administrator shall implement
13 procedures whereby health insurance agents and brokers, licensed under
14 chapter 48.17 RCW, may expeditiously assist patients and their families
15 in applying for basic health plan or medical assistance coverage, and
16 in submitting such applications directly to the health care authority
17 or the department of social and health services. Brokers and agents
18 shall be entitled to receive a commission for each individual sale of
19 the basic health plan to anyone not at anytime previously signed up and
20 a commission for each group sale of the basic health plan. No
21 commission shall be provided upon a renewal. Commissions shall be
22 determined based on the estimated annual cost of the basic health plan,
23 however, commissions shall not result in a reduction in the premium
24 amount paid to health carriers. For purposes of this section "health
25 carrier" is as defined in RCW 48.43.005. The health care authority and
26 the department of social and health services shall make every effort to
27 simplify and expedite the application and enrollment process.))~~

--- END ---