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**SENATE BILL 5758**

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**State of Washington                      64th Legislature                      2015 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Honeyford, Becker, Hargrove, Frockt, Hatfield, and Bailey

Read first time 02/02/15. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1            AN ACT Relating to federal medicaid payment reconciliations;  
2 adding a new section to chapter 74.09 RCW; and creating a new  
3 section.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    (1) Rural health clinics and federally  
6 qualified health centers play an extremely important role in the  
7 state's health care system. They are dedicated to maintaining access  
8 to health care in rural areas and to underserved areas and  
9 populations while constantly striving to improve the quality of  
10 health care offered in their communities. These clinics and centers  
11 have grown increasingly important as an answer to the access problem  
12 with the state's recent expansion of medicaid.

13            (2) These entities are required to navigate complicated payment,  
14 reimbursement, and reconciliation models with both federal and state  
15 governments. Additionally, they are burdened with unnecessary and  
16 avoidable regulatory hurdles and delays which have the potential to  
17 put their solvency and future at risk.

18            (3) Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature to grant these  
19 entities a level of stability and predictability by requiring the  
20 health care authority to complete its annual reconciliation process  
21 within two years.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 74.09  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        Beginning January 1, 2016, the authority must complete an annual  
4    reconciliation of enhancement payments for federally qualified health  
5    centers and rural health clinics in compliance with 42 U.S.C. Sec.  
6    1396a (bb)(5)(A) within two years of the close of the calendar year  
7    for which the payments are made.

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