
SENATE BILL 6146

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Senators Rolfes, Warnick, Keiser, Conway, Nelson, Chase, Angel, Hasegawa, Ranker, Billig, Habib, Dammeier, Honeyford, Hewitt, Fain, O'Ban, Mullet, Liias, Roach, Hill, Fraser, Litzow, and Darneille

Prefiled 12/07/15. Read first time 01/11/16. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing women with timely information
2 regarding their breast health; and adding a new section to chapter
3 70.54 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 70.54
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) All health care facilities shall include in the summary of
8 the mammography report, required by federal law to be provided to a
9 patient, information that identifies the patient's individual breast
10 density classification based on the breast imaging reporting and data
11 system established by the American College of Radiology. If a
12 physician at, employed by, or under contract with, the health care
13 facility determines that a patient has heterogeneously or extremely
14 dense breasts, the summary of the mammography report must include the
15 following notice:

16 "Your mammogram indicates that you may have dense breast tissue.
17 Dense breast tissue is relatively common and is found in more than
18 forty percent of women. The presence of dense tissue may make it more
19 difficult to detect abnormalities in the breast and may be associated
20 with an increased risk of breast cancer. We are providing this
21 information to raise your awareness of this important factor and to

1 encourage you to talk with your physician about this and other breast
2 cancer risk factors. Together, you can decide which screening options
3 are right for you. A report of your results was sent to your
4 physician."

5 (2) Patients who receive diagnostic or screening mammograms may
6 be directed to informative material about breast density. This
7 informative material may include the American College of Radiology's
8 most current brochure on the subject of breast density.

9 (3) For the purposes of this section:

10 (a) "Health care facility" means a hospital, clinic, nursing
11 home, laboratory, office, or similar place where mammography
12 examinations are performed.

13 (b) "Physician" means a person licensed to practice medicine
14 under chapter 18.57 or 18.71 RCW.

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