

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2498

Chapter 128, Laws of 2016

64th Legislature
2016 Regular Session

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS--DENTAL--PRIOR AUTHORIZATION--WORK GROUP

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/9/2016

Passed by the House February 16, 2016
Yeas 97 Nays 0

FRANK CHOPP

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate March 2, 2016
Yeas 47 Nays 0

BRAD OWEN

President of the Senate

Approved March 31, 2016 4:17 PM

JAY INSLEE

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2498** as passed by House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BARBARA BAKER

Chief Clerk

FILED

April 1, 2016

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2498

Passed Legislature - 2016 Regular Session

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2016 Regular Session

By House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Caldier, Cody, DeBolt, Manweller, Walsh, Johnson, Pike, Appleton, Jinkins, Kilduff, and Gregerson)

READ FIRST TIME 02/04/16.

1 AN ACT Relating to prior authorization for dental services and
2 supplies in medical assistance programs; adding a new section to
3 chapter 74.09 RCW; and providing an expiration date.

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

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

7 (1) The authority shall convene a work group or use an existing
8 work group to make recommendations on ways to improve the prior
9 authorization system for dental providers who provide dental services
10 and related supplies to clients of medical assistance programs. The
11 objective of the work group shall be to develop a prior authorization
12 system that protects patients against unnecessary treatments and
13 procedures while encouraging more dentists to treat medical
14 assistance clients and increase their access to needed dental
15 procedures.

16 (2) The recommendations shall identify:

17 (a) Current wait times for prior authorization approvals for
18 dental services and supplies and options for reducing the time that
19 medical assistance clients must wait for prior authorization
20 decisions;

1 (b) Dental services and related supplies that are currently
2 subject to prior authorization and which dental services and supplies
3 must remain subject to prior authorization for purposes of
4 maintaining quality controls and consistency with federal law and
5 which dental services and supplies may be removed from prior
6 authorization;

7 (c) Ways to reduce the cost and administrative burden of prior
8 authorization requirements on dental providers; and

9 (d) Options to adjust payment practices for those dental services
10 and supplies with prior authorization requirements.

11 (3) The work group must contain representatives of dental
12 providers in private practices, dental providers in community health
13 centers, oral health care advocates, and other relevant stakeholders.

14 (4) By December 15, 2016, the work group shall submit its
15 recommendations to the director of the authority and the committees
16 of the legislature with jurisdiction over health care issues.

17 (5) This section expires July 1, 2017.

Passed by the House February 16, 2016.

Passed by the Senate March 2, 2016.

Approved by the Governor March 31, 2016.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 1, 2016.

--- END ---