
SENATE BILL 5767

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session

By Senators Wellman, Mullet, and Keiser

Read first time 02/09/17. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to notice requirements of health care providers;
2 and adding a new section to chapter 70.01 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 70.01
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) A health care provider whose religious or philosophical
7 beliefs prevent the provider from offering or performing certain
8 medical procedures or prescribing a specific drug or group of drugs
9 that are within the health care provider's scope of practice must, if
10 a patient or client could reasonably believe that the medical
11 procedures or drug would be available through that provider, provide
12 notice to patients or clients as follows:

13 (a) The health care provider's office must post prominently on
14 its web site and in locations easily accessible to and visible by
15 patients or clients, a statement that the health care provider will
16 not perform certain medical procedures or will not prescribe specific
17 drugs because of the health care provider's religious or
18 philosophical beliefs; and

19 (b) The health care provider must provide a written notice to
20 each of its patients or clients that explains that the health care
21 provider will not perform certain medical procedures or will not

1 prescribe specific drugs because of the health care provider's
2 religious or philosophical beliefs. Each patient must sign the
3 statement and provide an acknowledgment that the statement was
4 provided and understood. If the patient or client is a non-English
5 speaker, the notice must be provided to the patient or client in a
6 language that the patient or client understands.

7 (2) For the purposes of this section, "health care provider"
8 means a physician under chapter 18.71 RCW, an osteopathic physician
9 under chapter 18.57 RCW, a registered nurse or advanced registered
10 nurse practitioner under chapter 18.79 RCW, a pharmacist or pharmacy
11 licensed under chapter 18.64 RCW, an osteopathic physician assistant
12 under chapter 18.57A RCW, a physician assistant under chapter 18.71A
13 RCW; a naturopath under chapter 18.36A RCW; a hospital under chapter
14 70.41 RCW; and an ambulatory surgical facility under chapter 70.230
15 RCW.

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