
HOUSE BILL 1902

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Cody, Appleton, Santos, Pollet, and Macri

Read first time 02/05/19. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to promoting consumer ease, administrative
2 simplification, and cost efficiency by requiring a single bill for
3 health services covered by a qualified health plan; adding a new
4 section to chapter 48.43 RCW; creating a new section and declaring an
5 emergency.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

8 (a) The federal patient protection and affordable care act
9 requires the segregation of premiums charged and collected by a
10 qualified health plan for coverage of abortion services for which
11 federal funding is prohibited;

12 (b) Washington has achieved full compliance with this requirement
13 by requiring health carriers to submit a single invoice to enrollees
14 and to segregate into a separate account the premium amounts
15 attributable to coverage of abortion services for which federal
16 funding is prohibited;

17 (c) This approach has eased the administrative burden on
18 enrollees and carriers, decreased costs, and prevented consumer
19 confusion while preserving the constitutionally protected right to
20 safe and legal medical abortion care; and

1 (d) Section 1303 of the patient protection and affordable care
2 act states that the act does not preempt or otherwise have any effect
3 on state laws regarding the prohibition of, or requirement of,
4 coverage, funding, or procedural requirements on abortions.

5 (2) The legislature therefore intends to codify the state's
6 current practice of requiring health carriers to bill enrollees with
7 a single invoice and to segregate into a separate account the premium
8 attributable to abortion services for which federal funding is
9 prohibited.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 48.43
11 RCW to read as follows:

12 In accordance with RCW 48.43.073 related to requirements for
13 coverage and funding of abortion services, an issuer offering a
14 qualified health plan must:

15 (1) Bill enrollees and collect payment through a single invoice
16 that includes all benefits and services covered by the qualified
17 health plan; and

18 (2) Include in the segregation plan required under applicable
19 federal and state law a certification that the issuer's billing and
20 payment processes meet the requirements of this section.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
22 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
23 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes
24 effect immediately.

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