
HOUSE BILL 1239

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Cody, Schmick, Macri, Harris, Appleton, Thai, Wylie, and Chambers

Read first time 01/17/19. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to protecting the confidentiality of health care
2 quality and peer review discussions to support effective patient
3 safety; and adding a new section to chapter 70.41 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 70.41
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) All meetings, proceedings, and deliberations of the governing
8 body, its staff or agents, concerning the granting, denial,
9 revocation, restriction, or other consideration of the status of the
10 clinical or staff privileges of a physician or other health care
11 provider as defined in RCW 7.70.020, if such other providers at the
12 discretion of the governing body are considered for such privileges,
13 must be confidential and may be conducted in executive session;
14 however, the final action of the governing body as to the denial,
15 revocation, or restriction of clinical or staff privileges of a
16 physician or other health care provider as defined in RCW 7.70.020
17 must be done in public session.

18 (2) All meetings, proceedings, and deliberations of a quality
19 improvement committee established under RCW 4.24.250, 43.70.510, or
20 70.41.200 and all meetings, proceedings, and deliberations of the
21 board of commissioners, its staff or agents, to review the report or

1 the activities of a quality improvement committee established under
2 RCW 4.24.250, 43.70.510, or 70.41.200 may, at the discretion of the
3 quality improvement committee or the governing body, be confidential
4 and may be conducted in executive session. Any review conducted by
5 the governing body or quality improvement committee, or their staff
6 or agents, must be subject to the same protections, limitations, and
7 exemptions that apply to quality improvement committee activities
8 under RCW 4.24.240, 4.24.250, 43.70.510, and 70.41.200. However, any
9 final action of the governing body on the report of the quality
10 improvement committee must be done in public session.

11 (3) For the purposes of this section:

12 (a) "Governing body" means the board or committee of a public
13 hospital with authority to make final decisions concerning the
14 granting, denial, revocation, restriction, or other consideration of
15 the clinical or staff privileges of a physician or other health care
16 provider, as defined in RCW 7.70.020; and

17 (b) "Public hospital" means any hospital owned or operated by the
18 state or any of its subdivisions, including the University of
19 Washington.

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