

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1869

61st Legislature
2009 Regular Session

Passed by the House April 24, 2009
Yeas 94 Nays 0

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate April 22, 2009
Yeas 49 Nays 0

President of the Senate

Approved

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 1869** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

Chief Clerk

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1869

AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2009 Regular Session

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2009 Regular Session

By House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by
Representatives Bailey, Hinkle, Anderson, Ericksen, and Kelley)

READ FIRST TIME 02/23/09.

1 AN ACT Relating to transparency of health care cost information;
2 adding a new section to chapter 70.01 RCW; and adding a new section to
3 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 70.01 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) Health care providers licensed under Title 18 RCW and health
8 care facilities licensed under Title 70 RCW shall provide the following
9 to a patient upon request:

10 (a) An estimate of fees and charges related to a specific service,
11 visit, or stay; and

12 (b) Information regarding other types of fees or charges a patient
13 may receive in conjunction with their visit to the provider or
14 facility. Hospitals licensed under chapter 70.41 RCW may fulfill this
15 requirement by providing a statement and contact information as
16 described in RCW 70.41.400.

17 (2) Providers and facilities listed in subsection (1) of this
18 section may, after disclosing estimated charges and fees to a patient,
19 refer the patient to the patient's insurer, if applicable, for specific

1 information on the insurer's charges and fees, any cost-sharing
2 responsibilities required of the patient, and the network status of
3 ancillary providers who may or may not share the same network status as
4 the provider or facility.

5 (3) Except for hospitals licensed under chapter 70.41 RCW,
6 providers and facilities listed in subsection (1) of this section shall
7 post a sign in patient registration areas containing at least the
8 following language: "Information about the estimated charges of your
9 health services is available upon request. Please do not hesitate to
10 ask for information."

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 70.41 RCW
12 to read as follows:

13 Hospitals licensed under this chapter shall post a sign in patient
14 registration areas containing at least the following language:
15 "Information about the estimated charges of your hospital services is
16 available upon request. Please do not hesitate to ask for
17 information."

--- END ---