

SB 5274 - S AMD 327

By Senator Hasegawa

ADOPTED 03/13/2019

1 On page 3, after line 19, insert the following:

2 **"Sec. 3.** RCW 43.71A.020 and 2018 c 161 s 3 are each amended to
3 read as follows:

4 (1) An individual is eligible for the COFA premium assistance
5 program if the individual:

6 (a) Is a resident;

7 (b) Is a COFA citizen;

8 (c) Enrolls in a silver qualified health plan;

9 (d) Has income that is less than one hundred thirty-three percent
10 of the federal poverty level; and

11 (e) Is ineligible for a federal or state medical assistance
12 program administered by the authority under chapter 74.09 RCW.

13 (2) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
14 specific purpose, the authority shall pay the premium cost for a
15 qualified health plan and the out-of-pocket costs for the coverage
16 provided by the plan for an individual who is eligible for the
17 premium assistance program under subsection (1) of this section.

18 (3) The authority may disqualify a participant from the program
19 if the participant:

20 (a) No longer meets the eligibility criteria in subsection (1) of
21 this section;

22 (b) Fails, without good cause, to comply with procedural or
23 documentation requirements established by the authority in accordance
24 with subsection (4) of this section;

25 (c) Fails, without good cause, to notify the authority of a
26 change of address in a timely manner;

27 (d) Withdraws the participant's application or requests
28 termination of coverage; or

29 (e) Performs an act, practice, or omission that constitutes
30 fraud, and, as a result, an insurer rescinds the participant's policy
31 for the qualified health plan.

32 (4) The authority shall establish:

1 (a) Application, enrollment, and renewal processes for the COFA
2 premium assistance program;

3 (b) The qualified health plans that are eligible for
4 reimbursement under the program;

5 (c) Procedural requirements for continued participation in the
6 program, including participant documentation requirements that are
7 necessary for the authority to administer the program; and

8 (d) Open enrollment periods and special enrollment periods
9 consistent with the enrollment periods for the health ((insurance
10 [health benefit])) benefit exchange((; and

11 ~~(e) A comprehensive community education and outreach campaign,
12 working with stakeholder and community organizations, to facilitate
13 applications for, and enrollment in, the program. Subject to the
14 availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, the
15 education and outreach program shall provide culturally and
16 linguistically accessible information to facilitate participation in
17 the program, including but not limited to enrollment procedures,
18 benefit utilization, and patient responsibilities.~~

19 ~~(5) The community education and outreach campaign conducted by
20 the authority must begin no later than September 1, 2018)).~~

21 ((+6)) (5) The first open enrollment period for the COFA premium
22 assistance program must begin no later than November 1, 2018.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 43.71A
24 RCW to read as follows:

25 The authority, in consultation with the Washington state
26 commission on Asian Pacific American affairs, shall establish an
27 annual comprehensive community education and outreach program to COFA
28 citizens, including contracting with a Washington organization that
29 has multilingual language capacity, and working with stakeholder and
30 community organizations, to facilitate applications for, and
31 enrollment in, the COFA premium assistance and dental care programs.
32 Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific
33 purpose, the education and outreach program shall provide culturally
34 and linguistically accessible information to facilitate participation
35 in the programs, including but not limited to enrollment procedures,
36 benefit utilization, and patient responsibilities."

37 Renumber the remaining sections consecutively and correct any
38 internal references accordingly.

1 On page 4, line 19, after "periods" insert "consistent with the
2 enrollment periods for the health benefit exchange"

3 On page 4, beginning on line 20, after "(5)" strike all material
4 through "(6)" on line 31

5 On page 4, line 32, after "November 1," strike "2019" and insert
6 "2020"

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7 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "43.71A.010" strike "and
8 43.71A.800; adding a new section to chapter 43.71A RCW" and insert "
9 43.71A.020, and 43.71A.800; adding new sections to chapter 43.71A
10 RCW"

EFFECT: (1) Combines the outreach programs for the COFA dental and premium assistance programs, makes the outreach annual and ongoing, makes the outreach subject to appropriations, and has the Health Care Authority consult with the Washington state commission on Asian Pacific American affairs in setting up the outreach program;

(2) Clarifies that open and special enrollment periods must be consistent with enrollment periods for the health benefit exchange; and

(3) Moves the first open enrollment for the dental program from November 1, 2019, to November 1, 2020.

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