**5178-S AMS CLEV S1978.2 - NOT FOR FLOOR USE**

**SSB 5178** - S AMD **440**

By Senator Cleveland

**ADOPTED 03/09/2021**

Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the following:

"NEW SECTION. **Sec.**  A new section is added to chapter 43.06 RCW to read as follows:

(1)(a) If when declaring or amending a statewide state of emergency pursuant to RCW 43.06.010, the governor determines that the emergency demands immediate action by hospitals to prevent critical health system failures and ensure hospitals' ability to work with emergency management in responding to the emergency, the governor shall, either simultaneously or within five days of that determination, specify within the emergency order or amended emergency order which of the following health care related statutes and substantially equivalent regulations shall be waived or suspended based on the nature of the declared emergency:

(i) RCW 70.38.105(4) (a), (e), and (h);

(ii) RCW 70.41.110, the following language only: "premises and";

(iii) RCW 70.41.230;

(iv) RCW 70.41.090 (3), (4), and (5);

(v) RCW 18.64.043(1), the following language only: "of location, which shall entitle the owner to operate such pharmacy at the location specified, or such other temporary location as the secretary may approve,";

(vi) RCW 18.64.043(2)(a), the following language only: "of location";

(vii) RCW 18.64.043(3), the following language only: "and to keep the license of location or the renewal thereof properly exhibited in said pharmacy.";

(viii) RCW 43.70.280(2), the following language only: "Such extension, reduction, or other modification of a licensing, certification, or registration period shall be by rule or regulation of the department of health adopted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 34.05 RCW. Such rules and regulations may provide a method for imposing and collecting such additional proportional fee as may be required for the extended or modified period."; and

(ix) RCW 18.360.010(11), the following language only: "physically present and is" and "in the facility. The health care practitioner does not need to be present during procedures to withdraw blood, but must be immediately available.".

(b) Hospitals that rely on waiver or suspension under (a) of this subsection shall notify the department within 14 days of initiating such reliance.

(c) Nothing in this section prevents the governor from waving or suspending any statutes and substantially equivalent regulations outside the time frames established in this section. Additionally, the governor may waive or suspend any additional statutes, without limitation, as the governor deems necessary to address the emergency.

(2) Waivers and suspensions in subsection (1) of this section do not apply except to projects undertaken to provide or respond to surge capacity, including temporary increases in bed capacity, during the governor's declaration of a statewide state of emergency. Such projects and increases in bed capacity must comply with these statutory and regulatory provisions after the termination of the state of emergency."

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**ADOPTED 03/09/2021**

On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "establishing" strike the remainder of the title and insert "timely considerations of waivers of select state health care laws to enable timely response by the health care system during a governor-declared statewide state of emergency; and adding a new section to chapter 43.06 RCW."

EFFECT: Removes the automatic waiver of statutes and administrative regulations upon a declaration of emergency and instead requires the Governor to determine, within five days of a declaration of a state of emergency, which specified health care related statutes and equivalent regulations should be waived to ensure hospitals can adequately respond to the emergency. Requires hospitals to notify the Department of Health when acting in reliance on a waived state statute during an emergency. Removes protection from state sanctions for entities acting in reliance on a waiver of Federal law when the corresponding state law has not been waived during an emergency.