FINAL BILL REPORT HB 1096

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Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Concerning nonmedicare plans offered through the Washington state health insurance pool.

Sponsors: Representatives Schmick, Cody, Leavitt, Ortiz-Self, Riccelli and Macri.

House Committee on Health Care & Wellness House Committee on Appropriations Senate Committee on Health & Long Term Care Senate Committee on Ways & Means

Background:

The Washington State Health Insurance Pool (WSHIP), Washington's high risk pool, provides coverage for:

- individuals ineligible for Medicare who were enrolled in WSHIP health plans prior to December 31, 2013;
- individuals ineligible for Medicare who live in a county where non-catastrophic individual health coverage is unavailable; and
- individuals eligible for Medicare who do not have access to a reasonable choice of Medicare Advantage plans and provide evidence of rejection for medical reasons, restrictive riders, an up-rated premium, preexisting condition limitations, or lack of access to a comprehensive Medicare supplemental plan.

The costs of coverage through the WSHIP are paid through premiums and assessments on health insurers. The WSHIP has approximately 200 enrollees in individual, non-Medicare coverage, and 1,100 enrollees in Medicare coverage.

After December 31, 2022, individual, non-Medicare coverage will no longer be offered through the WSHIP.

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This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

The expiration date for individual, non-Medicare coverage purchased through the WSHIP is eliminated.

Votes on Final Passage:

House 96 0 Senate 49 0

Effective: July 25, 2021