
SENATE BILL 6446

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1992 Regular Session

By Senators Madsen, Murray, Niemi and Wojahn

Read first time 01/30/92. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to nursing homes; amending RCW 74.46.620; adding a
2 new section to chapter 74.42 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 74.46
3 RCW; and making an appropriation.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 74.42 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 Each time a medicaid recipient is discharged from a medicaid
8 provider's facility for the purpose of hospitalization, the provider
9 shall hold open the recipient's bed for the recipient for a minimum of
10 three days immediately following the day of discharge and shall not
11 deny the recipient readmission and placement in the same bed vacated if
12 sought during such three-day period following the day of discharge. If
13 the medicaid recipient is eligible for medicare, the recipient may be
14 readmitted to a bed in a medicare distinct part. In addition, the

1 medicaid recipient may be readmitted to bed in a heavy care wing of the
2 medicaid provider's facility, if the attending physician determines
3 that the recipient's health status warrants the additional heavy care.

4 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.46.620 and 1980 c 177 s 62 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The department will reimburse a contractor for service rendered
7 under the facility contract and billed in accordance with RCW
8 74.46.610.

9 (2) The amount paid will be computed using the appropriate rates
10 assigned to the contractor, subject to the provisions of subsection (4)
11 of this section.

12 (3) For each recipient, the department will pay an amount equal to
13 the appropriate rates, multiplied by the number of patient days each
14 rate was in effect, less the amount the recipient is required to pay
15 for his or her care as set forth by RCW 74.46.630.

16 (4) If a recipient is discharged from the contractor's facility for
17 the purpose of temporary hospitalization, the department shall
18 reimburse at the facility-assigned rate, minus the amount the recipient
19 is required to pay, for each day the recipient's bed is held vacant,
20 for a maximum of four days, including the day of discharge. The four
21 days a contractor's facility is reimbursed in full, for the purpose of
22 temporary hospitalization, shall be considered part of the eighteen
23 days maximum per year a resident can vacate the bed for social leave
24 time. There shall be no reimbursement for a bed held vacant for a
25 recipient unless:

26 (a) The recipient's facility had a minimum average occupancy rate
27 of at least ninety-five percent, including hospitalized residents for
28 whom beds were held vacant, during the calendar month immediately
29 preceding the month of discharge; and

1 (b) The recipient is in fact readmitted to the facility to the same
2 bed directly or is readmitted to a bed in the medicare distinct part or
3 to the heavy care wing of the provider's facility as specified in
4 section 1 of this act.

5 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 74.46 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 The department shall develop and adopt rules to accurately keep
8 record of a resident's social leave time and hospitalization time in
9 compliance with RCW 74.46.620.

10 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. The sum of six hundred thousand dollars,
11 or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the
12 biennium ending June 30, 1993, from the general fund--state to the
13 department of social and health services for the purposes of this act.