
HOUSE BILL 2681

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Representatives Flemming, Dyer, Sheldon, Peery, Lisk, Cooke, B. Thomas, Backlund, Ballasiotes, Sehlin, Silver, Foreman, Sheahan, Horn, Brumsickle, Long, Reams, L. Thomas, Tate, Carlson, Wood, Schmidt, Mielke, Campbell, Van Luven, Zellinsky, Edmondson, Casada, Mastin, Anderson, Lemmon, Shin, Finkbeiner, Padden, Stevens, Ballard, Forner, Fuhrman, Schoesler, Morris, Wineberry, Talcott, Brough, Basich, Roland, Johanson, Pruitt, Rayburn, Chandler, Kremen, King, Conway and Springer

Read first time 01/21/94. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to a limited certified health plan for vision
2 services; and adding a new section to chapter 43.72 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.72 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) For the purposes of this section, "limited certified vision
7 plan" or "vision plan" means a certified health plan offering
8 comprehensive vision services only and that, but for the exclusion of
9 all health services required under the uniform benefits package except
10 vision coverage, qualifies as a certified health plan and complies with
11 all provisions governing certified health plans including but not
12 limited to requirements for managed care, community rating, and
13 nondiscrimination. However, the insurance commissioner may exempt a
14 vision plan from certified health plan requirements only to the extent
15 the certified health plan requirements would prevent the operation of
16 the vision plan.

17 (2) A vision plan may provide coverage for vision services directly
18 to individuals or to employers for the benefit of employees. If an
19 individual or an employer purchases comprehensive vision services from

1 a vision plan, the certified health plan covering the individual or the
2 employees need not provide vision services required under the uniform
3 benefits package. A certified health plan may subcontract with a
4 vision plan to provide the vision benefits required under the uniform
5 benefits package.

6 (3) The commission shall establish maximum premiums and maximum
7 enrollee financial participation amounts that may be charged by vision
8 plans and shall adopt rules defining the minimum, uniform vision
9 services that must be offered by vision plans. The commission shall
10 adopt rules governing the percentage adjustment of the maximum premium
11 for certified health plans not providing vision benefits by virtue of
12 the individual's or employee's coverage by a vision plan and rules
13 governing the percentage change in the maximum premium that may be
14 charged by a vision plan subcontracting with a certified health plan.

15 (4) Rules governing vision plan premiums and financial
16 participation amounts, and rules defining minimum, uniform vision
17 services shall be adopted by the commission and shall apply to vision
18 plans in accordance with the implementation dates applicable to
19 certified health plans with respect to similar requirements.

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