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**SENATE BILL 5433**

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**State of Washington**

**53rd Legislature**

**1993 Regular Session**

**By** Senators West, Talmadge, Deccio, Wojahn, Pelz, Moyer, von Reichbauer, Erwin, Winsley and Oke

Read first time 01/28/93. Referred to Committee on Health & Human Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to the Washington state award for excellence in  
2 health care; adding new sections to chapter 43.06 RCW; and creating a  
3 new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes the critical  
6 importance of ensuring that all Washington residents have access to  
7 quality and affordable health care. The legislature further recognizes  
8 that substantial improvements can be made in health care delivery when  
9 providers, including health care facilities, are encouraged to  
10 continuously strive for excellence in quality management practices,  
11 value, and consumer satisfaction. The legislature finds that when  
12 centers of quality are highlighted and honored publicly they become  
13 examples for other health care providers to emulate, thereby further  
14 promoting the implementation of improved health care delivery  
15 processes.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** There is created an award to honor and  
17 recognize cost-effective and quality health care services. This award

1 shall be known as the "Washington State Award for Excellence in Health  
2 Care."

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The governor shall annually identify and  
4 honor those health care providers practicing in the state of Washington  
5 who exhibit exceptional quality and value in the delivery of health  
6 care. The selection shall be based upon the actual delivery of health  
7 care services by the provider and shall include such factors as  
8 consumer satisfaction, quality measurement, cost-efficient practices,  
9 creative and innovative delivery practices, leadership, and other  
10 factors that the governor deems appropriate. The governor may appoint  
11 an advisory committee to assist in the selection of honorees if  
12 necessary.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The office of the governor shall produce an  
14 application booklet that is sufficiently detailed as to require careful  
15 self-examination of the practices and processes utilized by the health  
16 care provider. The criteria for judging the award application will  
17 include analysis of:

18 (1) Consumer satisfaction - Is quality defined by the consumer?

19 (2) Quality measurement - Is there accurate and timely data to  
20 prove that the level of quality has improved significantly?

21 (3) Cost-efficient practices - Has the true cost of services been  
22 reduced and not hidden? How much of the cost savings are being passed  
23 on to the consumer?

24 (4) Creative and innovative delivery practices - Has the provider  
25 developed and implemented a new and better process for delivering  
26 health care?

27 (5) Leadership - Has the provider clearly defined quality  
28 excellence goals in health care and developed realistic methods for  
29 achieving these goals? Has the provider helped to educate outside  
30 providers and groups about quality excellence in health care? and

31 (6) Other factors that the governor deems appropriate.

32 The application must be completed and submitted to the office of  
33 the governor to be considered for the award. The application booklet  
34 shall contain additional information including guidelines and examples  
35 for assessing and improving quality and value in health care delivery.  
36 All established health care providers and facilities that provide

1 health care services in the state of Washington are eligible to apply  
2 for the award.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 2 through 4 of this act are each  
4 added to chapter 43.06 RCW.

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