

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5854

Chapter 389, Laws of 1995

54th Legislature
1995 Regular Session

WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE SERVICES

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/23/95

Passed by the Senate April 23, 1995
YEAS 43 NAYS 0

JOEL PRITCHARD

President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 23, 1995
YEAS 94 NAYS 2

CLYDE BALLARD

**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

Approved May 16, 1995

MIKE LOWRY

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Marty Brown, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5854** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

MARTY BROWN

Secretary

FILED

May 16, 1995 - 1:40 p.m.

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5854

AS RECOMMENDED BY CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Passed Legislature - 1995 Regular Session

State of Washington 54th Legislature 1995 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Haugen, Spanel, Wood, Prentice, Winsley, Rasmussen, Hale, Kohl, McCaslin, Fairley, Long, Loveland, Franklin, Roach, Moyer, Quigley, McAuliffe, Drew and Wojahn)

Read first time 03/01/95.

1 AN ACT Relating to women's health care; and adding a new section to
2 chapter 48.42 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 48.42 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) For purposes of this section, health care carriers includes
7 disability insurers regulated under chapter 48.20 or 48.21 RCW, health
8 care services contractors regulated under chapter 48.44 RCW, health
9 maintenance organizations regulated under chapter 48.46 RCW, plans
10 operating under the health care authority under chapter 41.05 RCW, the
11 state health insurance pool operating under chapter 48.41 RCW, and
12 insuring entities regulated under chapter 48.43 RCW.

13 (2) For purposes of this section and consistent with their lawful
14 scopes of practice, types of health care practitioners that provide
15 women's health care services shall include, but need not be limited by
16 a health care carrier to, the following: Any generally recognized
17 medical specialty of practitioners licensed under chapter 18.57 or
18 18.71 RCW who provides women's health care services; practitioners
19 licensed under chapters 18.57A and 18.71A RCW when providing women's

1 health care services; and advanced registered nurse practitioner
2 specialists in women's health and midwifery under chapter 18.79 RCW.

3 (3) For purposes of this section, women's health care services
4 shall include, but need not be limited by a health care carrier to, the
5 following: Maternity care; reproductive health services; gynecological
6 care; general examination; and preventive care as medically appropriate
7 and medically appropriate follow-up visits for the services listed in
8 this subsection.

9 (4) Health care carriers shall ensure that enrolled female patients
10 have direct access to timely and appropriate covered women's health
11 care services from the type of health care practitioner of their choice
12 in accordance with subsection (5) of this section.

13 (5)(a) Health care carrier policies, plans, and programs written,
14 amended, or renewed after the effective date of this act shall provide
15 women patients with direct access to the type of health care
16 practitioner of their choice for appropriate covered women's health
17 care services without the necessity of prior referral from another type
18 of health care practitioner.

19 (b) Health care carriers may comply with this section by including
20 all the types of health care practitioners listed in this section for
21 women's health care services for women patients.

22 (c) Nothing in this section shall prevent health care carriers from
23 restricting women patients to seeing only health care practitioners who
24 have signed participating provider agreements with the health care
25 carrier.

Passed the Senate April 23, 1995.

Passed the House April 23, 1995.

Approved by the Governor May 16, 1995.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 16, 1995.