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SENATE BILL 5313

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State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Senators Wojahn, Zarelli, Thibaudeau, Deccio and Winsley

Read first time 01/19/1999. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to the scope of mental health record audits; and  
2 adding a new section to chapter 48.43 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 48.43 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 Every health carrier that provides coverage for any outpatient  
7 mental health service shall comply with the following requirements:

8 (1) In performing a utilization review of mental health services  
9 for a specific enrollee, the person performing the utilization review  
10 is limited to accessing only the specific health care information for  
11 the particular enrollee in question that is necessary to complete the  
12 review.

13 (2) In performing an audit of mental health services, the person  
14 performing the audit is limited to accessing only the records of  
15 persons covered by the specific health carrier for which the audit is  
16 being performed, except as otherwise permitted by RCW 70.02.050 and  
17 71.05.630.

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