
HOUSE BILL 3310

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2006 Regular Session

By Representatives Bailey, Linville, Kessler, Morrell and Clibborn

Read first time 02/10/2006. Referred to .

1 AN ACT Relating to health care coverage statutory requirements; and
2 creating new sections.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds and declares that
5 there has been an ongoing controversy over the costs and benefits of
6 existing health care coverage statutory requirements and their effect
7 on health care insurance costs. It is for this reason that an
8 unbiased, independent actuarial study of existing health care coverage
9 statutory requirements needs to be conducted. It is not the intent of
10 the legislature to take any actions in relation to the findings of the
11 study until they can be reviewed and analyzed by the legislature, in
12 consultation with the office of the insurance commissioner, health care
13 providers, health carriers, and health care purchasers.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The office of the insurance commissioner
15 shall contract for an actuarial review and analysis of existing health
16 care coverage statutory requirements. The office of the insurance
17 commissioner shall:

1 (1) Contract with a qualified independent and impartial entity that
2 has not taken a public position in the past on the merits or
3 consequences of the adoption of health care coverage statutory
4 requirements;

5 (2) Provide that the review of health care coverage statutory
6 requirements include statutes that:

7 (a) Mandate that health carriers provide benefits for certain
8 conditions or services;

9 (b) Prohibit discrimination between health care provider groups who
10 deliver services that are included in a health benefit plan;

11 (c) Establish requirements as to how a particular service or
12 benefit must be provided by a health carrier in its health benefit
13 plans; and

14 (d) Require health carriers to offer certain services as an option
15 for individuals or groups purchasing a health benefit plan;

16 (3) Include the following analyses in the scope of the actuarial
17 review:

18 (a) The cost of including the statutory requirements in health
19 benefit plans, taking into consideration the impact that covering the
20 statutory requirement has on the utilization of other health services,
21 expressed as a net premium cost or savings per member per month; and

22 (b) An assessment of whether market demand has already resulted in
23 inclusion of current statutory requirements in a significant number of
24 health benefit plans in states that do not have such statutory
25 requirements; and

26 (4) Submit an interim report to the governor and appropriate
27 committees of the legislature by December 1, 2006, and a final report
28 by December 1, 2007.

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