

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1869**

Chapter 529, Laws of 2009

61st Legislature  
2009 Regular Session

HEALTH CARE FEES AND CHARGES--DISCLOSURE

EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/26/09

Passed by the House April 24, 2009  
Yeas 94 Nays 0

FRANK CHOPP

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**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 22, 2009  
Yeas 49 Nays 0

BRAD OWEN

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**President of the Senate**

Approved May 18, 2009, 3:28 p.m.

CHRISTINE GREGOIRE

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1869** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BARBARA BAKER

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**Chief Clerk**

FILED

May 20, 2009

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1869**

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2009 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      61st Legislature                      2009 Regular Session**

**By**        House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by  
Representatives Bailey, Hinkle, Anderson, Ericksen, and Kelley)

READ FIRST TIME 02/23/09.

1            AN ACT Relating to transparency of health care cost information;  
2 adding a new section to chapter 70.01 RCW; and adding a new section to  
3 chapter 70.41 RCW.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 70.01 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7            (1) Health care providers licensed under Title 18 RCW and health  
8 care facilities licensed under Title 70 RCW shall provide the following  
9 to a patient upon request:

10            (a) An estimate of fees and charges related to a specific service,  
11 visit, or stay; and

12            (b) Information regarding other types of fees or charges a patient  
13 may receive in conjunction with their visit to the provider or  
14 facility. Hospitals licensed under chapter 70.41 RCW may fulfill this  
15 requirement by providing a statement and contact information as  
16 described in RCW 70.41.400.

17            (2) Providers and facilities listed in subsection (1) of this  
18 section may, after disclosing estimated charges and fees to a patient,  
19 refer the patient to the patient's insurer, if applicable, for specific

1 information on the insurer's charges and fees, any cost-sharing  
2 responsibilities required of the patient, and the network status of  
3 ancillary providers who may or may not share the same network status as  
4 the provider or facility.

5 (3) Except for hospitals licensed under chapter 70.41 RCW,  
6 providers and facilities listed in subsection (1) of this section shall  
7 post a sign in patient registration areas containing at least the  
8 following language: "Information about the estimated charges of your  
9 health services is available upon request. Please do not hesitate to  
10 ask for information."

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 70.41 RCW  
12 to read as follows:

13 Hospitals licensed under this chapter shall post a sign in patient  
14 registration areas containing at least the following language:  
15 "Information about the estimated charges of your hospital services is  
16 available upon request. Please do not hesitate to ask for  
17 information."

Passed by the House April 24, 2009.

Passed by the Senate April 22, 2009.

Approved by the Governor May 18, 2009.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 20, 2009.