
SENATE BILL 5912

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session

By Senators Kuderer, Rivers, Cleveland, Walsh, Conway, Mullet, Keiser, and Hasegawa

Read first time 03/29/17. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to insurance coverage of tomosynthesis or three-
2 dimensional mammography; and adding a new section to chapter 48.43
3 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 48.43
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) Digital breast tomosynthesis, also called three-dimensional
8 mammography, is the latest advancement in breast imaging. Studies
9 indicate that digital breast tomosynthesis can result in a forty-one
10 percent increase in invasive cancer detection, a fifteen percent
11 decrease in the recall rate from screening mammography, and a twenty-
12 nine percent increase in the detection of all breast cancers. In
13 addition, the American college of radiology has indicated that
14 tomosynthesis is no longer investigational. Therefore, it is the
15 intent of the legislature to ensure women have access to the most
16 effective breast imaging and to clarify that the existing mandate for
17 mammography must include tomosynthesis.

18 (2) The legislature directs the office of the insurance
19 commissioner to clarify that the existing mandates for mammography in
20 RCW 48.20.393, 48.21.225, 48.44.325, and 48.46.275 include coverage
21 for tomosynthesis under the same terms and conditions currently

1 allowed for mammography. The application of a deductible and cost
2 sharing is prohibited, consistent with 42 U.S.C. Sec. 300-gg-13.

3 (3) The legislature also directs the health care authority to
4 clarify that the existing mandate for mammography in RCW 41.05.180
5 includes coverage for tomosynthesis under the same terms and
6 conditions currently allowed for mammography. The application of a
7 deductible and cost sharing is prohibited, consistent with 42 U.S.C.
8 Sec. 300-gg-13.

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