
HOUSE BILL 1075

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Kirby and Vick

Prefiled 01/02/19. Read first time 01/14/19. Referred to Committee on Consumer Protection & Business.

1 AN ACT Relating to consumer competitive group insurance; and
2 amending RCW 48.30.140 and 48.30.150.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 48.30.140 and 2015 c 272 s 1 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Except to the extent provided for in an applicable filing
7 with the commissioner then in effect, no insurer, insurance producer,
8 or title insurance agent shall, as an inducement to insurance, or
9 after insurance has been effected, directly or indirectly, offer,
10 promise, allow, give, set off, or pay to the insured or to any
11 employee of the insured, any rebate, discount, abatement, or
12 reduction of premium or any part thereof named in any insurance
13 contract, or any commission thereon, or earnings, profits, dividends,
14 or other benefit, or any other valuable consideration or inducement
15 whatsoever which is not expressly provided for in the policy.

16 (2) Subsection (1) of this section shall not apply as to
17 commissions paid to a licensed insurance producer, or title insurance
18 agent for insurance placed on that person's own property or risks.

19 (3) This section shall not apply to the allowance by any marine
20 insurer, or marine insurance producer, to any insured, in connection
21 with marine insurance, of such discount as is sanctioned by custom

1 among marine insurers as being additional to the insurance producer's
2 commission.

3 (4) This section shall not apply to advertising or promotional
4 programs conducted by insurers or insurance producers whereby prizes,
5 goods, wares, gift cards, gift certificates, or merchandise, not
6 exceeding one hundred dollars in value per person in the aggregate in
7 any twelve-month period, are given to all insureds or prospective
8 insureds under similar qualifying circumstances. This subsection does
9 not apply to title insurers or title insurance agents.

10 (5) This section does not apply to an offset or reimbursement of
11 all or part of a fee paid to an insurance producer as provided in RCW
12 48.17.270.

13 (6) (a) Subsection (1) of this section shall not be construed to
14 prohibit a health carrier or disability insurer from including as
15 part of a group or individual health benefit plan or contract
16 containing health benefits, a wellness program which meets the
17 requirements for an exception from the prohibition against
18 discrimination based on a health factor under the health insurance
19 portability and accountability act (P.L. 104-191; 110 Stat. 1936) and
20 regulations adopted pursuant to that act.

21 (b) For purposes of this subsection: (i) "Health carrier" and
22 "health benefit plan" have the same meaning as provided in RCW
23 48.43.005; and (ii) "wellness program" has the same meaning as
24 provided in 45 C.F.R. 146.121(f).

25 (7) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply to a payment by
26 an insurer to offset documented expenses incurred by a group
27 policyholder in changing coverages from one insurer to another or for
28 implementing new insurance coverage. Insurers shall describe any such
29 payment in the group insurance policy.

30 **Sec. 2.** RCW 48.30.150 and 2015 c 272 s 2 are each amended to
31 read as follows:

32 (1) No insurer, insurance producer, title insurance agent, or
33 other person shall, as an inducement to insurance, or in connection
34 with any insurance transaction, provide in any policy for, or offer,
35 or sell, buy, or offer or promise to buy or give, or promise, or
36 allow to, or on behalf of, the insured or prospective insured in any
37 manner whatsoever:

38 (a) Any shares of stock or other securities issued or at any time
39 to be issued on any interest therein or rights thereto; or

1 (b) Any special advisory board contract, or other contract,
2 agreement, or understanding of any kind, offering, providing for, or
3 promising any profits or special returns or special dividends; or

4 (c) Any prizes, goods, wares, gift cards, gift certificates, or
5 merchandise of an aggregate value in excess of one hundred dollars
6 per person in the aggregate in any consecutive twelve-month period.
7 This subsection (1)(c) does not apply to title insurers or title
8 insurance agents.

9 (2) Subsection (1) of this section shall not be deemed to
10 prohibit the sale or purchase of securities as a condition to or in
11 connection with surety insurance insuring the performance of an
12 obligation as part of a plan of financing found by the commissioner
13 to be designed and operated in good faith primarily for the purpose
14 of such financing, nor shall it be deemed to prohibit the sale of
15 redeemable securities of a registered investment company in the same
16 transaction in which life insurance is sold.

17 (3)(a) Subsection (1) of this section shall not be deemed to
18 prohibit a health carrier or disability insurer from including as
19 part of a group or individual health benefit plan or contract
20 providing health benefits, a wellness program which meets the
21 requirements for an exception from the prohibition against
22 discrimination based on a health factor under the health insurance
23 portability and accountability act (P.L. 104-191; 110 Stat. 1936) and
24 regulations adopted pursuant to that act.

25 (b) For purposes of this subsection: (i) "Health carrier" and
26 "health benefit plan" have the same meaning as provided in RCW
27 48.43.005; and (ii) "wellness program" has the same meaning as
28 provided in 45 C.F.R. 146.121(f).

29 (4) Subsection (1) of this section does not prohibit an insurer
30 from issuing any payment to offset documented expenses incurred by a
31 group policyholder in changing coverages from one insurer to another
32 or for implementing new insurance coverage. Insurers shall describe
33 any such payment in the group insurance policy.

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