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HOUSE BILL 1187

State of Washington 69th Legislature 2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Ryu, Thai, and Obras Prefiled 01/07/25.

- AN ACT Relating to protecting patients involved in motor vehicle accidents from delayed ambulance bills; adding a new section to chapter 18.73 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.70 RCW; and providing an effective date.
- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 18.73
 RCW to read as follows:
- 8 (1)(a) Each ambulance service shall attempt to collect 9 automotive, health, personal injury, or any other relevant insurance 10 information from a patient that is involved in a motor vehicle 11 accident at the time transportation is provided.
- 12 (b) At the time of transportation, the ambulance service shall 13 attempt to provide the patient with the consumer notice created under 14 section 2 of this act.
- 15 (c) For purposes of this section, a motor vehicle accident 16 includes incidents where a pedestrian or bicyclist is struck or 17 otherwise injured by a motor vehicle.
- 18 (2) Within 60 days of the transportation, an ambulance service 19 must:
- 20 (a) Provide the patient with the consumer notice created under 21 section 2 of this act; and

p. 1 HB 1187

- 1 (b)(i) If the ambulance service collected the patient's insurance 2 information during transportation, bill the appropriate insurance or 3 the patient; or
- 4 (ii) If the ambulance service was unable to collect the patient's 5 insurance information during the transportation, attempt to collect 6 the patient's automotive, health, personal injury, or any other 7 relevant insurance information and bill the appropriate insurance or 8 the patient within 60 days of receiving this information.
- 9 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.70 10 RCW to read as follows:
- By January 1, 2026, the department, in consultation with the 11 office of the insurance commissioner, ambulance services, health 12 carriers, insurers, and consumers, shall develop a standard consumer 13 notice educating the public on the different types of insurance that 14 15 may cover a motor vehicle accident, the order in which the different types of insurance are applied to ambulance service bills, the 16 insured's rights, and other information that would assist a person 17 that has received an ambulance service bill following a motor vehicle 18 19 accident.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. Section 1 of this act takes effect January 1, 2026.

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p. 2 HB 1187