

---

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1226**

---

**State of Washington**

**52nd Legislature**

**1991 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Health Care (originally sponsored by Representatives Prentice, Wood, Franklin, Braddock, May, Brekke, Leonard, Belcher, Day, Brough, R. Meyers, Morris, Pruitt, Silver, D. Sommers, Dellwo, Jones, Riley, Scott, Sheldon, Phillips, Orr, Basich, Ogden and Cantwell).

Read first time February 25, 1991.

1       AN ACT Relating to nursing homes; amending RCW 74.46.620; adding a  
2 new section to chapter 74.42 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter  
3 74.46 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 74.42 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7       Each time a medicaid recipient is discharged from a medicaid  
8 provider's facility for the purpose of hospitalization, the provider  
9 shall hold open the recipient's bed for the recipient for a minimum of  
10 five days immediately following the day of discharge and shall not deny  
11 the recipient readmission and placement in the same bed vacated if  
12 sought during such five-day period following the day of discharge. If  
13 the medicaid recipient is eligible for medicare, the recipient may be  
14 readmitted to a bed in a medicare distinct part. In addition, the  
15 medicaid recipient may be readmitted to bed in a heavy care wing of the

1 medicaid provider's facility, if the attending physician determines  
2 that the recipient's health status warrants the additional heavy care.

3 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.46.620 and 1980 c 177 s 62 are each amended to read  
4 as follows:

5 (1) The department will reimburse a contractor for service rendered  
6 under the facility contract and billed in accordance with RCW  
7 74.46.610.

8 (2) The amount paid will be computed using the appropriate rates  
9 assigned to the contractor, subject to the provisions of subsection (4)  
10 of this section.

11 (3) For each recipient, the department will pay an amount equal to  
12 the appropriate rates, multiplied by the number of patient days each  
13 rate was in effect, less the amount the recipient is required to pay  
14 for his or her care as set forth by RCW 74.46.630.

15 (4) If a recipient is discharged from the contractor's facility for  
16 the purpose of temporary hospitalization, the department shall  
17 reimburse at the facility-assigned rate, minus the amount the recipient  
18 is required to pay, for each day the recipient's bed is held vacant,  
19 for a maximum of three days, including the day of discharge. The  
20 department shall reimburse at fifty percent of the facility-assigned  
21 rate, minus the amount the recipient is required to pay, for each day  
22 the bed is held vacant for a resident's hospitalization, for an  
23 additional maximum of three days beyond the three days a vacant bed is  
24 reimbursed at the full rate for the same purpose. The four and one-  
25 half days a contractor's facility is reimbursed in full, for the  
26 purpose of temporary hospitalization, shall be considered part of the  
27 eighteen days maximum per year a resident can vacate the bed for social  
28 leave time. There shall be no reimbursement for a bed held vacant for  
29 a recipient unless:

1       (a) The recipient's facility had a minimum average occupancy rate  
2 of at least ninety-five percent, including hospitalized residents for  
3 whom beds were held vacant, during the calendar month immediately  
4 preceding the month of discharge; and

5       (b) The recipient is in fact readmitted to the facility to the same  
6 bed directly.

7       NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 74.46 RCW  
8 to read as follows:

9       The department shall develop and adopt rules to accurately keep  
10 record of a resident's social leave time and hospitalization time in  
11 compliance with RCW 74.46.620.