

FINAL BILL REPORT

EHB 2005

FULL VETO

As Passed Legislature

Brief Description: Modifying certified health plan provision of vision benefits.

Sponsors: Representatives Dyer and Dellwo.

House Committee on Health Care
Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care

Background: The Washington Health Services Act of 1993 requires certified health plans (CHPs) to offer, at a minimum, the full uniform benefits package (UBP). CHPs are not permitted to offer vision care only.

Summary: Insuring entities are permitted to offer coverage for vision care as part of, or separate from, the UBP, consistent with certification rules set by the Insurance Commissioner. Such permission is not intended to convey a market advantage for vision-only CHPs. The Washington Health Services Commission and the Insurance Commissioner must develop and enforce separate cost containment requirements, including separate community-rated premium submaximums and enrollee financial participation submaximums.

Vision-care only CHPs are required to comply with all applicable laws governing the financial supervision and solvency of such organizations, including laws concerning capital and surplus requirements, reserves, deposits, bonds, and indemnities.

Votes on Final Passage:

House	98	0	
Senate	40	1	(Senate amended)
House	96	0	(House concurred)