
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1123

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By House Committee on Health Care (originally sponsored by Representatives Braddock, Franklin and Orr; by request of Dept. of Social and Health Services).

Read first time March 6, 1991.

1 AN ACT Relating to compliance with federal requirements concerning
2 land, depreciable assets, and resident finances; amending RCW 74.46.360
3 and 74.46.530; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.46.360 and 1989 c 372 s 14 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (1) The depreciation base shall be the historical cost of the
8 contractor or lessor, when the assets are leased by the contractor, in
9 acquiring the asset in an arm's-length transaction and preparing it for
10 use, less goodwill, and less accumulated depreciation which has been
11 incurred during periods that the assets have been used in or as a
12 facility by any contractor, such accumulated depreciation to be
13 measured in accordance with subsections (2), (3), and (4) of this
14 section and RCW 74.46.350 and 74.46.370. If the department challenges
15 the historical cost of an asset, or if the contractor cannot or will

1 not provide the historical costs, the department will have the
2 department of general administration, through an appraisal procedure,
3 determine the fair market value of the assets at the time of purchase.
4 The depreciation base of the assets will not exceed such fair market
5 value.

6 (2) The historical cost of donated assets, or of assets received
7 through testate or intestate distribution, shall be the lesser of:

8 (a) Fair market value at the date of donation or death; or

9 (b) The historical cost base of the owner last contracting with the
10 department, if any.

11 (3) Estimated salvage value of acquired, donated, or inherited
12 assets shall be deducted from historical cost where the straight-line
13 or sum-of-the-years' digits method of depreciation is used.

14 (4) (a) Where depreciable assets are acquired that were used in the
15 medical care program subsequent to January 1, 1980, the depreciation
16 base of the assets will not exceed the net book value which did exist
17 or would have existed had the assets continued in use under the
18 previous contract with the department; except that depreciation shall
19 not be assumed to accumulate during periods when the assets were not in
20 use in or as a facility.

21 (b) The provisions of (a) of this subsection shall not apply to the
22 most recent arm's-length acquisition if it occurs at least ten years
23 after the ownership of the assets has been previously transferred in an
24 arm's-length transaction nor to the first arm's-length acquisition that
25 occurs after January 1, 1980, for facilities participating in the
26 medical care program prior to January 1, 1980. The new depreciation
27 base for such acquisitions shall not exceed the fair market value of
28 the assets as determined by the department of general administration
29 through an appraisal procedure. A determination by the department of
30 general administration of fair market value shall be final unless the

1 procedure used to make such determination is shown to be arbitrary and
2 capricious.

3 (i) This subsection is inoperative for any transfer of ownership of
4 any asset occurring on or after July 18, 1984, leaving (a) of this
5 subsection to apply alone to such transfers(~~(:—PROVIDED, HOWEVER,~~
6 ~~That))~~). However this subsection shall apply to transfers of ownership
7 of assets occurring prior to January 1, 1985, if the costs of such
8 assets have never been reimbursed under medicaid cost reimbursement on
9 an owner-operated basis or as a related-party lease(~~(:—PROVIDED~~
10 ~~FURTHER, That for))~~).

11 (ii) Any contractor that can document in writing an enforceable
12 agreement for the purchase of a nursing home dated prior to July 18,
13 1984, and submitted to the department prior to January 1, 1988, the
14 depreciation base of the nursing home, for rates established after July
15 18, 1984, shall not exceed the fair market value of the assets at the
16 date of purchase as determined by the department of general
17 administration through an appraisal procedure.

18 (iii) For medicaid cost reimbursement purposes, an agreement to
19 purchase a nursing home dated prior to July 18, 1984, is enforceable,
20 even though such agreement contains no legal description of the real
21 property involved, notwithstanding the statute of frauds or any other
22 provision of law.

23 (c) The provisions of (a) and (b) of this subsection shall not
24 apply to an arm's-length transaction that occurs on or after July 1,
25 1991. When land and depreciable assets are acquired in an arm's-length
26 transaction on or after July 1, 1991, then the depreciable base of
27 those assets shall be the lesser of the following amounts:

28 (i) The historical cost to the buyer; or

29 (ii) The historical cost to the seller increased by the lesser of
30 the following two percentages:

1 (A) One-half of the percentage increase as measured over the same
2 period of time in the Dodge Construction Systems Costs for Nursing
3 Homes, applied in the aggregate with respect to those facilities which
4 have undergone a change of ownership during the fiscal year; or

5 (B) One-half of the percentage increase as measured over the same
6 period of time in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers
7 (United States City average).

8 (d) In the case of assets leased by the same contractor since
9 January 1, 1980, in an arm's-length lease, and purchased by the
10 lessee/contractor, the lessee/contractor shall have the option:

11 (i) To have the provisions of subsection (b) of this section apply
12 to the purchase; or

13 (ii) To have the reimbursement for property and return on
14 investment continue to be calculated pursuant to the provisions
15 contained in RCW 74.46.530(1) (~~((e) and))~~ (f) and (g) based upon the
16 provisions of the lease in existence on the date of the purchase, but
17 only if the purchase date meets one of the following criteria:

18 (A) The purchase date is after the lessor has declared bankruptcy
19 or has defaulted in any loan or mortgage held against the leased
20 property;

21 (B) The purchase date is within one year of the lease expiration or
22 renewal date contained in the lease;

23 (C) The purchase date is after a rate setting for the facility in
24 which the reimbursement rate set pursuant to this chapter no longer is
25 equal to or greater than the actual cost of the lease; or

26 (D) The purchase date is within one year of any purchase option in
27 existence on January 1, 1988.

28 (~~((d))~~) (e) Where depreciable assets are acquired from a related
29 organization, the contractor's depreciation base shall not exceed the

1 base the related organization had or would have had under a contract
2 with the department.

3 ~~((e))~~ (f) Where the depreciable asset is a donation or
4 distribution between related organizations, the base shall be the
5 lesser of (i) fair market value, less salvage value, or (ii) the
6 depreciation base the related organization had or would have had for
7 the asset under a contract with the department.

8 **Sec. 2.** RCW 74.46.530 and 1985 c 361 s 17 are each amended to read
9 as follows:

10 (1) The department shall establish for individual facilities return
11 on investment allowances composed of two parts: A financing allowance
12 and a variable return allowance.

13 (a) The financing allowance shall be determined by multiplying the
14 net invested funds of each facility by .11, and dividing by the
15 contractor's total patient days. If a capitalized addition or
16 retirement of an asset will result in a different licensed bed capacity
17 during the ensuing period, the prior period total patient days used in
18 computing the financing and variable return allowances shall be
19 adjusted to the anticipated patient day level.

20 (b) In computing the portion of net invested funds representing the
21 net book value of tangible fixed assets, the same assets, depreciation
22 bases, lives, and methods referred to in RCW 74.46.330, 74.46.350,
23 74.46.360, and 74.46.370, including owned and leased assets, shall be
24 utilized, except that the capitalized cost of land upon which the
25 facility is located and such other contiguous land which is reasonable
26 and necessary for use in the regular course of providing patient care
27 shall also be included. In the case of leased facilities where the net
28 invested funds are unknown or the contractor is unable to provide
29 necessary information to determine net invested funds, the secretary

1 shall have the authority to determine an amount for net invested funds
2 based on an appraisal conducted according to RCW 74.46.360(1).

3 (c) If land and depreciable assets that are eligible to be included
4 in determining the amount of net invested funds was acquired in an
5 arm's-length transaction on or after July 1, 1991, then the capitalized
6 cost of that land shall be the lesser of the following amounts:

7 (i) The historical cost to the buyer; or

8 (ii) The historical cost to the seller, increased by the lesser of
9 the following two percentages:

10 (A) One-half of the percentage increase as measured over the same
11 period of time in the Dodge Construction Systems Costs for Nursing
12 Homes, applied in the aggregate with respect to those facilities which
13 have undergone a change of ownership during the fiscal year; or

14 (B) One-half of the percentage increase as measured over the same
15 period of time in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers
16 (United States City average).

17 (d) In determining the variable return allowance:

18 (i) The department will first rank all facilities in numerical
19 order from highest to lowest according to their average per diem
20 allowable costs for the sum of the administration and operations and
21 property cost centers for the previous cost report period.

22 (ii) The department shall then compute the variable return
23 allowance by multiplying the appropriate percentage amounts, which
24 shall not be less than one percent and not greater than four percent,
25 by the total prospective rate for each facility, as determined in RCW
26 74.46.450 through 74.46.510. The percentage amounts will be based on
27 groupings of facilities according to the rankings as established in
28 ((subparagraph (1)(b)(i) of this section)) (d)(i) of this subsection.
29 Those groups of facilities with lower per diem costs shall receive
30 higher percentage amounts than those with higher per diem costs.

1 (~~(d)~~) (e) The sum of the financing allowance and the variable
2 return allowance shall be the return on investment for each facility,
3 and shall be added to the prospective rates of each contractor as
4 determined in RCW 74.46.450 through 74.46.510.

5 (~~(e)~~) (f) In the case of a facility which was leased by the
6 contractor as of January 1, 1980, in an arm's-length agreement, which
7 continues to be leased under the same lease agreement, and for which
8 the annualized lease payment, plus any interest and depreciation
9 expenses associated with contractor-owned assets, for the period
10 covered by the prospective rates, divided by the contractor's total
11 patient days, minus the property cost center determined according to
12 RCW 74.46.510, is more than the return on investment allowance
13 determined according to (~~subsection (1)(d) of this section~~) (e) of
14 this subsection, the following shall apply:

15 (i) The financing allowance shall be recomputed substituting the
16 fair market value of the assets as of January 1, 1982, as determined by
17 the department of general administration through an appraisal
18 procedure, less accumulated depreciation on the lessor's assets since
19 January 1, 1982, for the net book value of the assets in determining
20 net invested funds for the facility. A determination by the department
21 of general administration of fair market value shall be final unless
22 the procedure used to make such determination is shown to be arbitrary
23 and capricious.

24 (ii) The sum of the financing allowance computed under (~~subsection~~
25 ~~(1)(e)(i) of this section~~) (f)(i) of this subsection and the variable
26 allowance shall be compared to the annualized lease payment, plus any
27 interest and depreciation expenses associated with contractor-owned
28 assets, for the period covered by the prospective rates, divided by the
29 contractor's total patient days, minus the property cost center rate

1 determined according to RCW 74.46.510. The lesser of the two amounts
2 shall be called the alternate return on investment allowance.

3 (iii) The return on investment allowance determined according to
4 (~~subsection (1)(d) of this section~~) (e) of this subsection or the
5 alternate return on investment allowance, whichever is greater, shall
6 be the return on investment allowance for the facility and shall be
7 added to the prospective rates of the contractor as determined in RCW
8 74.46.450 through 74.46.510.

9 (~~(f)~~) (g) In the case of a facility which was leased by the
10 contractor as of January 1, 1980, in an arm's-length agreement, if the
11 lease is renewed or extended pursuant to a provision of the lease, the
12 treatment provided in (~~subsection (1)(e) of this section~~) (f) of this
13 subsection shall be applied except that in the case of renewals or
14 extensions made subsequent to April 1, 1985, reimbursement for the
15 annualized lease payment shall be no greater than the reimbursement for
16 the annualized lease payment for the last year prior to the renewal or
17 extension of the lease.

18 (2) In the event that the department of health and human services
19 disallows the application of the return on investment allowances to
20 nonprofit facilities, the department shall modify the measurements of
21 net invested funds used for computing individual facility return on
22 investment allowances as follows: Net invested funds for each
23 nonprofit facility shall be multiplied by one minus the ratio of equity
24 funds to the net invested funds of all nonprofit facilities.

25 (3) Each biennium, beginning in 1985, the secretary shall review
26 the adequacy of return on investment allowances in relation to
27 anticipated requirements for maintaining, reducing, or expanding
28 nursing care capacity. The secretary shall report the results of such
29 review to the legislature and make recommendations for adjustments in

1 the return on investment rates utilized in this section, if
2 appropriate.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act is necessary for the immediate
4 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
5 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take
6 effect July 1, 1991.