

SENATE BILL REPORT

HB 1351

AS REPORTED BY COMMITTEE ON LABOR & COMMERCE, APRIL 2, 1993

**Brief Description:** Defining hospital in regard to self-insurers.

**SPONSORS:** Representatives Veloria, Heavey, King and Lisk; by request of Department of Labor & Industries

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE & LABOR**

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR & COMMERCE**

**Majority Report:** Do pass.

Signed by Senators Moore, Chairman; Prentice, Vice Chairman; Fraser, McAuliffe, Newhouse, Sutherland, and Wojahn.

**Staff:** Dave Cheal (786-7576)

**Hearing Dates:** April 2, 1993

**BACKGROUND:**

Under the state industrial insurance system, hospital employees may be covered through one of two self-insurance groups, one for public hospitals and one for private hospitals. The definition of "hospital" for the purpose of authorizing these groups refers to a statute that was repealed in 1990 with the sunset of the Washington State Hospital Commission.

**SUMMARY:**

The authority for hospitals to form industrial insurance self-insurance groups is amended by deleting the reference to a repealed definition of "hospital." A new definition is added that includes hospitals under the hospital licensing statute and hospitals regulated as psychiatric hospitals, but excludes beds used by a comprehensive cancer center for cancer research. A reference is deleted that limited the self-insurance group for non-public hospitals to not-for-profit hospitals.

**Appropriation:** none

**Revenue:** none

**Fiscal Note:** none requested

**TESTIMONY FOR:**

The authority of hospitals to form groups to qualify as self-insurers should not be inadvertently compromised by the repeal of an unrelated statute.

**TESTIMONY AGAINST:** None

**TESTIFIED:** Jody Moran, Department of Labor and Industries