
HOUSE BILL 2775

State of Washington 53rd Legislature 1994 Regular Session

By Representatives Sommers, Ogden and L. Johnson

Read first time 01/24/94. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to health services for inmates of correctional
2 institutions; and creating new sections.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** In the Washington health services act of
5 1993, RCW 41.05.022(2) the legislature directed the governor, by
6 January 1, 1997, to submit legislation to place the purchasing of
7 health benefits for persons incarcerated in institutions administered
8 by the department of corrections into the risk pool administered by the
9 health care authority. During the transition to unified health
10 services purchasing, the legislature intends to improve the efficiency
11 of health services delivered to inmates of correctional institutions.

12 The legislature finds that this state, with its recent
13 comprehensive health care reforms, is in a unique position to evaluate
14 the level of care provided to inmates in its correctional facilities.
15 For the first time, a uniform benefits package has been defined and
16 will be made available to citizens of the state. This standard can
17 serve as a benchmark for what should be available for those
18 incarcerated in the state's prisons.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) By November 1, 1994, the health care
2 authority shall evaluate the following:

3 (a) The potential of utilizing or adapting management information
4 systems and payment systems currently used by the health care
5 authority, the department of labor and industries, or the department of
6 social and health services medical assistance administration for those
7 services purchased by the department of corrections on a fee-for-
8 service basis;

9 (b) The potential of utilizing the resource-based relative value
10 scale reimbursement system for purchasing physician services for
11 inmates;

12 (c) The potential of utilizing prospective inpatient hospital
13 reimbursement systems to purchase health services for inmates;

14 (d) The potential of utilizing current state procedures for the
15 purchase of prescription drugs and medical devices for inmates;

16 (e) The potential of contracting with managed health care systems
17 on a capitated basis to provide care to inmates of correctional
18 institutions;

19 (f) The feasibility of the health care authority acting as the
20 purchasing agent for any or all of the department of corrections health
21 care needs before the January 1, 1997, date specified in the Washington
22 health services act.

23 (2) By November 1, 1995, the health care authority shall evaluate:
24 The level of care available to inmates, and the utilization rates of
25 inmates of correctional facilities. The health care authority shall
26 use as a benchmark the level of care available through the uniform
27 benefits package as defined by the health care commission.

28 (3) The health care authority shall report on the results of its
29 evaluation to the appropriate committees of the legislature by November
30 1, 1994, and November 1, 1995.

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