
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5178

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Wood, Wojahn, Deccio, Bauer, Fairley, Goings, Prince, Prentice, Franklin, Horn, Patterson and Winsley)

Read first time 02/19/97.

1 AN ACT Relating to the enactment of the diabetes cost reduction
2 act; adding a new section to chapter 41.05 RCW; adding a new section to
3 chapter 48.20 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.21 RCW; adding a
4 new section to chapter 48.44 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.46
5 RCW; and providing an effective date.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 41.05 RCW
8 to read as follows:

9 The legislature finds that diabetes imposes a significant health
10 risk and tremendous financial burden on the citizens and government of
11 the state of Washington, and that access to the medically accepted
12 standards of care for diabetes, its treatment and supplies, and self-
13 management training and education is crucial to prevent or delay the
14 short and long-term complications of diabetes and its attendant costs.

15 (1) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
16 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

17 (a) "Person with diabetes" means a person diagnosed by a health
18 care provider as having insulin using diabetes, noninsulin using
19 diabetes, or elevated blood glucose levels induced by pregnancy; and

1 (b) "Health care provider" means a health care provider as defined
2 in RCW 48.43.005.

3 (2) All state-purchased health care purchased or renewed after the
4 effective date of this act shall provide services or coverage for
5 services for persons with diabetes, to include at least the following:

6 (a) Appropriate and medically necessary equipment and supplies, as
7 prescribed by a health care provider, that includes but is not limited
8 to insulin, syringes, injection aids, blood glucose monitors, test
9 strips for blood glucose monitors, visual reading and urine test
10 strips, insulin pumps and accessories to the pumps, insulin infusion
11 devices, prescriptive oral agents for controlling blood sugar levels,
12 foot care appliances for prevention of complications associated with
13 diabetes, and glucagon emergency kits; and

14 (b) Outpatient self-management training and education, including
15 medical nutrition therapy, as ordered by the health care provider.
16 Diabetes outpatient self-management training and education may be
17 provided only by health care providers with expertise in diabetes.
18 Nothing in this section prevents any state agency purchasing health
19 care according to this section from restricting patients to seeing only
20 health care providers who have signed participating provider agreements
21 with that state agency or an insuring entity under contract with that
22 state agency.

23 (3) Coverage required under this section may be subject to normal
24 cost-sharing provisions established for all other similar services or
25 supplies within a policy.

26 (4) Health care coverage may not be reduced or eliminated due to
27 this section.

28 (5) Services required under this section shall be covered when
29 deemed medically necessary by the medical director, or his or her
30 designee, subject to any referral and formulary requirements.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 48.20 RCW
32 to read as follows:

33 The legislature finds that diabetes imposes a significant health
34 risk and tremendous financial burden on the citizens and government of
35 the state of Washington, and that access to the medically accepted
36 standards of care for diabetes, its treatment and supplies, and self-
37 management training and education is crucial to prevent or delay the
38 short and long-term complications of diabetes and its attendant costs.

1 (1) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
2 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

3 (a) "Person with diabetes" means a person diagnosed by a health
4 care provider as having insulin using diabetes, noninsulin using
5 diabetes, or elevated blood glucose levels induced by pregnancy; and

6 (b) "Health care provider" means a health care provider as defined
7 in RCW 48.43.005.

8 (2) All disability insurance contracts providing health care
9 services, delivered or issued for delivery in this state and issued or
10 renewed after the effective date of this act, shall provide services or
11 coverage for services for persons with diabetes, to include at least
12 the following:

13 (a) Appropriate and medically necessary equipment and supplies, as
14 prescribed by a health care provider, that includes but is not limited
15 to insulin, syringes, injection aids, blood glucose monitors, test
16 strips for blood glucose monitors, visual reading and urine test
17 strips, insulin pumps and accessories to the pumps, insulin infusion
18 devices, prescriptive oral agents for controlling blood sugar levels,
19 foot care appliances for prevention of complications associated with
20 diabetes, and glucagon emergency kits; and

21 (b) Outpatient self-management training and education, including
22 medical nutrition therapy, as ordered by the health care provider.
23 Diabetes outpatient self-management training and education may be
24 provided only by health care providers with expertise in diabetes.
25 Nothing in this section prevents the insurer from restricting patients
26 to seeing only health care providers who have signed participating
27 provider agreements with the insurer or an insuring entity under
28 contract with the insurer.

29 (3) Coverage required under this section may be subject to normal
30 cost-sharing provisions established for all other similar services or
31 supplies within a policy.

32 (4) Health care coverage may not be reduced or eliminated due to
33 this section.

34 (5) Services required under this section shall be covered when
35 deemed medically necessary by the medical director, or his or her
36 designee, subject to any referral and formulary requirements.

37 (6) The insurer need not include the coverage required in this
38 section in a group contract offered to an employer or other group that
39 offers to its eligible enrollees a self-insured health plan not subject

1 to mandated benefits status under this title that does not offer
2 coverage similar to that mandated under this section.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 48.21 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 The legislature finds that diabetes imposes a significant health
6 risk and tremendous financial burden on the citizens and government of
7 the state of Washington, and that access to the medically accepted
8 standards of care for diabetes, its treatment and supplies, and self-
9 management training and education is crucial to prevent or delay the
10 short and long-term complications of diabetes and its attendant costs.

11 (1) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
12 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

13 (a) "Person with diabetes" means a person diagnosed by a health
14 care provider as having insulin using diabetes, noninsulin using
15 diabetes, or elevated blood glucose levels induced by pregnancy; and

16 (b) "Health care provider" means a health care provider as defined
17 in RCW 48.43.005.

18 (2) All group disability insurance contracts and blanket disability
19 insurance contracts providing health care services, issued or renewed
20 after the effective date of this act, shall provide services or
21 coverage for services for persons with diabetes, to include at least
22 the following:

23 (a) Appropriate and medically necessary equipment and supplies, as
24 prescribed by a health care provider, that includes but is not limited
25 to insulin, syringes, injection aids, blood glucose monitors, test
26 strips for blood glucose monitors, visual reading and urine test
27 strips, insulin pumps and accessories to the pumps, insulin infusion
28 devices, prescriptive oral agents for controlling blood sugar levels,
29 foot care appliances for prevention of complications associated with
30 diabetes, and glucagon emergency kits; and

31 (b) Outpatient self-management training and education, including
32 medical nutrition therapy, as ordered by the health care provider.
33 Diabetes outpatient self-management training and education may be
34 provided only by health care providers with expertise in diabetes.
35 Nothing in this section prevents the insurer from restricting patients
36 to seeing only health care providers who have signed participating
37 provider agreements with the insurer or an insuring entity under
38 contract with the insurer.

1 (3) Coverage required under this section may be subject to normal
2 cost-sharing provisions established for all other similar services or
3 supplies within a policy.

4 (4) Health care coverage may not be reduced or eliminated due to
5 this section.

6 (5) Services required under this section shall be covered when
7 deemed medically necessary by the medical director, or his or her
8 designee, subject to any referral and formulary requirements.

9 (6) The insurer need not include the coverage required in this
10 section in a group contract offered to an employer or other group that
11 offers to its eligible enrollees a self-insured health plan not subject
12 to mandated benefits status under this title that does not offer
13 coverage similar to that mandated under this section.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 48.44 RCW
15 to read as follows:

16 The legislature finds that diabetes imposes a significant health
17 risk and tremendous financial burden on the citizens and government of
18 the state of Washington, and that access to the medically accepted
19 standards of care for diabetes, its treatment and supplies, and self-
20 management training and education is crucial to prevent or delay the
21 short and long-term complications of diabetes and its attendant costs.

22 (1) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
23 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

24 (a) "Person with diabetes" means a person diagnosed by a health
25 care provider as having insulin using diabetes, noninsulin using
26 diabetes, or elevated blood glucose levels induced by pregnancy; and

27 (b) "Health care provider" means a health care provider as defined
28 in RCW 48.43.005.

29 (2) All health benefit plans offered by health care service
30 contractors, issued or renewed after the effective date of this act,
31 shall provide services or coverage for services for persons with
32 diabetes, to include at least the following:

33 (a) Appropriate and medically necessary equipment and supplies, as
34 prescribed by a health care provider, that includes but is not limited
35 to insulin, syringes, injection aids, blood glucose monitors, test
36 strips for blood glucose monitors, visual reading and urine test
37 strips, insulin pumps and accessories to the pumps, insulin infusion
38 devices, prescriptive oral agents for controlling blood sugar levels,

1 foot care appliances for prevention of complications associated with
2 diabetes, and glucagon emergency kits; and

3 (b) Outpatient self-management training and education, including
4 medical nutrition therapy, as ordered by the health care provider.
5 Diabetes outpatient self-management training and education may be
6 provided only by health care providers with expertise in diabetes.
7 Nothing in this section prevents the health care services contractor
8 from restricting patients to seeing only health care providers who have
9 signed participating provider agreements with the health care services
10 contractor or an insuring entity under contract with the health care
11 services contractor.

12 (3) Coverage required under this section may be subject to normal
13 cost-sharing provisions established for all other similar services or
14 supplies within a policy.

15 (4) Health care coverage may not be reduced or eliminated due to
16 this section.

17 (5) Services required under this section shall be covered when
18 deemed medically necessary by the medical director, or his or her
19 designee, subject to any referral and formulary requirements.

20 (6) The health care service contractor need not include the
21 coverage required in this section in a group contract offered to an
22 employer or other group that offers to its eligible enrollees a self-
23 insured health plan not subject to mandated benefits status under this
24 title that does not offer coverage similar to that mandated under this
25 section.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 48.46 RCW
27 to read as follows:

28 The legislature finds that diabetes imposes a significant health
29 risk and tremendous financial burden on the citizens and government of
30 the state of Washington, and that access to the medically accepted
31 standards of care for diabetes, its treatment and supplies, and self-
32 management training and education is crucial to prevent or delay the
33 short and long-term complications of diabetes and its attendant costs.

34 (1) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
35 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

36 (a) "Person with diabetes" means a person diagnosed by a health
37 care provider as having insulin using diabetes, noninsulin using
38 diabetes, or elevated blood glucose levels induced by pregnancy; and

1 (b) "Health care provider" means a health care provider as defined
2 in RCW 48.43.005.

3 (2) All health benefit plans offered by health maintenance
4 organizations, issued or renewed after the effective date of this act,
5 shall provide services or coverage for services for persons with
6 diabetes, to include at least the following:

7 (a) Appropriate and medically necessary equipment and supplies, as
8 prescribed by a health care provider, that includes but is not limited
9 to insulin, syringes, injection aids, blood glucose monitors, test
10 strips for blood glucose monitors, visual reading and urine test
11 strips, insulin pumps and accessories to the pumps, insulin infusion
12 devices, prescriptive oral agents for controlling blood sugar levels,
13 foot care appliances for prevention of complications associated with
14 diabetes, and glucagon emergency kits; and

15 (b) Outpatient self-management training and education, including
16 medical nutrition therapy, as ordered by the health care provider.
17 Diabetes outpatient self-management training and education may be
18 provided only by health care providers with expertise in diabetes.
19 Nothing in this section prevents the health maintenance organization
20 from restricting patients to seeing only health care providers who have
21 signed participating provider agreements with the health maintenance
22 organization or an insuring entity under contract with the health
23 maintenance organization.

24 (3) Coverage required under this section may be subject to normal
25 cost-sharing provisions established for all other similar services or
26 supplies within a policy.

27 (4) Health care coverage may not be reduced or eliminated due to
28 this section.

29 (5) Services required under this section shall be covered when
30 deemed medically necessary by the medical director, or his or her
31 designee, subject to any referral and formulary requirements.

32 (6) The health maintenance organization need not include the
33 coverage required in this section in a group contract offered to an
34 employer or other group that offers to its eligible enrollees a self-
35 insured health plan not subject to mandated benefits status under this
36 title that does not offer coverage similar to that mandated under this
37 section.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act takes effect January 1, 1998.

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