
SENATE BILL 6676

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Senators Winsley, Kline, Patterson, Franklin and Deccio

Read first time 01/27/98. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to actions against health care providers; and
2 adding a new section to chapter 7.70 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 7.70 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 A health care provider, as defined in RCW 48.43.005, is not liable
7 to the patient or to any third-party payor or others under any contract
8 or policy providing or paying for health care benefits or services,
9 including any health plan as defined in RCW 48.43.005, which is entered
10 into or renewed after the effective date of this act, for the decision
11 of a third-party payor or others not to pay for or provide
12 reimbursement for health care services recommended by the health care
13 provider when:

14 (1) The health care provider complies with any formal or informal
15 avenues of appeal made available to the health care provider by the
16 third-party payor or others under a health plan, as defined in RCW
17 48.43.005, or under any other contract or policy providing or paying
18 for health care benefits or services; and

1 (2) The health care provider advises the patient to obtain the
2 recommended care, even if not covered by the third-party payor, informs
3 the patient of the potential risks in not obtaining the recommended
4 health care services, and informs the patient to comply with any formal
5 or informal avenues of appeal made available to the patient by the
6 third-party payor or others under a health plan, as defined in RCW
7 48.43.005, or under any other contract or policy providing or paying
8 for health care benefits or services.

9 This section neither creates nor defines a standard of care for the
10 provision of such health care services.

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