

1820

Sponsor(s): Representatives Dyer, Scott, Skinner, Sheldon, Sherstad, Zellinsky and Backlund

Brief Title: Concerning health care liability reform.

HB 1820 - DIGEST

Requires a claimant's attorney to file the certificate specified in this act within ninety days of filing or service, whichever occurs later, of any action for damages arising out of injuries occurring as a result of health care.

Provides for equal access to medical witnesses.

Declares that RCW 5.60.060 and 70.02.050 do not apply to claims, hearings, appeals, or any other proceedings under Title 51 RCW.

Provides that an attorney who represents a claimant who has accepted an early settlement offer shall not collect a contingent fee that is greater than ten percent of the amount of the early settlement offer.

Provides that an attorney who represents a claimant who has rejected or failed to accept an early settlement offer shall not collect a contingent fee that is greater than ten percent of the amount of the early settlement offer plus the percentage of the amount recovered in excess of the early settlement offer as was agreed to by the claimant and the attorney.

Provides that a claimant's attorney who has failed to provide his or her client a true and complete copy of an early settlement offer received by the attorney shall not collect a contingent fee greater than ten percent of the amount recovered.