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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1535**

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**State of Washington**

**56th Legislature**

**1999 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Health Care (originally sponsored by Representatives Parlette, Cody, Schual-Berke, Romero, Ruderman, Esser, Hatfield, Boldt, Campbell, Pflug and Alexander)

Read first time 02/19/1999.

1 AN ACT Relating to health maintenance organizations' reimbursement  
2 of podiatric physicians and surgeons; adding a new section to chapter  
3 48.46 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 48.46 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 Except to the extent that a health maintenance organization  
8 contracts with a group medical practice which only treats that  
9 organization's patients, a health maintenance organization may not  
10 discriminate in the terms and conditions, including reimbursement, for  
11 the provision of foot care services between physicians and surgeons  
12 licensed under chapters 18.22, 18.57, and 18.71 RCW.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is intended to be procedural and  
14 not to impair the obligation of any existing contract.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If any provision of this act or its  
16 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the

1 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
2 persons or circumstances is not affected.

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