

SSB 5736 - S AMD 305

By Senators Spanel, Benson, Fairley, Benton

ADOPTED 03/14/2005

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that there is a
4 need to assist island and rural citizens with the availability of
5 affordable air ambulance service. The legislature further finds that
6 there is a need to evaluate the feasibility of subscription air
7 ambulance service offered by a vendor that solicits membership
8 subscriptions, accepts membership applications, charges membership
9 fees, and furnishes prepaid or discounted air ambulance service to
10 subscription members and designated members of their households.

11 (2) The office of the insurance commissioner must perform an
12 evaluation of the feasibility of subscription air ambulance service.
13 This evaluation shall be geared toward allowing a person, entity,
14 corporation, or nonprofit corporation to offer, sell, and provide
15 subscription air ambulance service. The evaluation shall:

16 (a) Include consultation with public and private entities and
17 individuals involved in offering, providing, and purchasing
18 subscription air ambulance service;

19 (b) Assess the needs and concerns of likely subscription air
20 ambulance vendors, including the costs of providing affordable air
21 ambulance service to rural and island residents, as well as the burdens
22 placed on vendors if held to the reporting and solvency requirements of
23 the insurance code;

24 (c) Determine the implications of subscription air ambulance
25 service on consumer protection issues; and

26 (d) Compare the state's need for affordable subscription air
27 ambulance service to other states that allow this service, including an
28 inquiry into the practices of out-of-state vendors who provide the
29 service, as well as the applicability or nonapplicability of other
30 states' insurance codes to the service.

1 (3) The office of the insurance commissioner must submit a report
2 of its findings to the legislature by December 31, 2005, and the report
3 must include recommendations based on the evaluation required under
4 subsection (2) of this section.

5 (4) The subscription air ambulance service feasibility evaluation
6 shall be funded by the office of the insurance commissioner."

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7 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "services;" strike the
8 remainder of the title and insert "and creating a new section."

EFFECT: Requires the Office of the Insurance Commissioner to
conduct a feasibility evaluation of subscription air ambulance service
instead of requiring that subscription air ambulance vendors apply for
licensure through the Insurance Commissioner.

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