
HOUSE BILL 2310

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2005 Regular Session

By Representatives Sommers and Cody

Read first time 03/30/2005. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to physician referrals; adding a new section to
2 chapter 18.71 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 18.57 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 18.71 RCW
5 to read as follows:

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

8 (a) "Financial relationship" means a relationship between a
9 physician and a health care facility and that includes either:

10 (i) An ownership or investment interest; or

11 (ii) A compensation arrangement that involves remuneration between
12 a physician, or an immediate family member of a physician, and a health
13 care facility.

14 (b) "Health care facility" means a radiologist group practice or an
15 office consisting solely of one or more radiologists.

16 (c) "Radiologist" means a physician certified by the American board
17 of radiology or the American osteopathic board of radiology.

18 (d) "Radiology services" means health care services performed by a

1 radiologist or credentialed assistive personnel of a radiologist,
2 including magnetic resonance imaging services, computed axial
3 tomography services, or positron emission tomography services.

4 (2) A physician may not refer a patient, or direct an employee of
5 or person under contract with the physician to refer a patient, for
6 radiology services at a health care facility in which the physician has
7 a financial relationship.

8 (3) No health care services contractor or health plan is
9 responsible for payments for radiology services provided pursuant to an
10 improper referral under subsection (2) of this section.

11 (4) A violation of this section constitutes unprofessional conduct
12 under chapter 18.130 RCW.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 18.57 RCW
14 to read as follows:

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

17 (a) "Financial relationship" means a relationship between an
18 osteopathic physician or surgeon and a health care facility and that
19 includes either:

20 (i) An ownership or investment interest; or

21 (ii) A compensation arrangement that involves remuneration between
22 an osteopathic physician or surgeon, or an immediate family member of
23 an osteopathic physician or surgeon, and a health care facility.

24 (b) "Health care facility" means a radiologist group practice or an
25 office consisting solely of one or more radiologists.

26 (c) "Radiologist" means a physician certified by the American board
27 of radiology or the American osteopathic board of radiology.

28 (d) "Radiology services" means health care services performed by a
29 radiologist or credentialed assistive personnel of a radiologist,
30 including magnetic resonance imaging services, computed axial
31 tomography services, or positron emission tomography services.

32 (2) An osteopathic physician or surgeon may not refer a patient, or
33 direct an employee of or person under contract with the osteopathic
34 physician or surgeon to refer a patient, for radiology services at a
35 health care facility in which the osteopathic physician or surgeon has
36 a financial relationship.

1 (3) No health care services contractor or health plan is
2 responsible for payments for radiology services provided pursuant to an
3 improper referral under subsection (2) of this section.

4 (4) A violation of this section constitutes unprofessional conduct
5 under chapter 18.130 RCW.

--- END ---