
HOUSE BILL 2943

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Representatives Cody, Curtis, Morrell, Campbell, Green, Clibborn, Kessler, Serben, Rodne, Roach, Moeller, Buri, Pearson, McCune, Appleton, Kenney, Hasegawa and Dunn

Read first time 01/17/2006. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to health care provider contracting; and adding a
2 new section to chapter 48.43 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 48.43 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) Every health carrier, insurer, and other organization engaged
7 in the business of creating provider networks shall comply with the
8 provisions of this section in selecting and contracting with health
9 care providers. For the purpose of this section, "contractor" refers
10 to health carriers, insurers, and other organizations engaged in the
11 business of creating provider networks.

12 (2) Contractors may not discriminate against various classes of
13 health care practitioners by adopting health care network selection and
14 credentialing standards that permit selection and credentialing of
15 clinics of only one or certain classes of practitioners. For example
16 and not as a limitation of this subsection, if a contractor permits a
17 clinic comprising physicians and nurses to contract on a clinic rather
18 than upon an individual basis, the contractor must permit a clinic

1 comprising chiropractors and licensed massage therapists to contract on
2 a clinic rather than upon an individual basis.

3 (3) Contractors may not refuse to contract with a provider or
4 providers who purchase the practice of an existing contracted provider
5 if the purchasing provider or providers otherwise meet the
6 credentialing standards of the contractor.

7 (4) Contractors may not refuse to contract with a provider who
8 works as an employee of a contracted provider if the employee otherwise
9 meets the credentialing standards of the contractor.

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