

---

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 3310

---

State of Washington                      59th Legislature                      2006 Regular Session

By Representatives Bailey, Linville, Kessler, Morrell and Clibborn

Read first time 02/10/2006. Referred to .

1            AN ACT Relating to health care coverage statutory requirements; and  
2            creating new sections.

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

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds and declares that  
5            there has been an ongoing controversy over the costs and benefits of  
6            existing health care coverage statutory requirements and their effect  
7            on health care insurance costs. It is for this reason that an  
8            unbiased, independent analysis of existing health care coverage  
9            statutory requirements needs to be conducted. It is not the intent of  
10           the legislature to take any actions in relation to the findings of the  
11           study until they can be reviewed and analyzed by the legislature, in  
12           consultation with the office of the insurance commissioner, health care  
13           providers, health carriers, health care purchasers, and health care  
14           consumers.

15           NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.** The office of the insurance commissioner  
16           shall contract for an analysis of existing health care coverage  
17           statutory requirements. The office of the insurance commissioner  
18           shall:

1 (1)(a) Contract with a qualified independent and impartial entity  
2 that has not taken a public position in the past on the merits or  
3 consequences of the adoption of health care coverage statutory  
4 requirements; and

5 (b) Conduct the analysis in two phases:

6 (i) The first phase of the analysis shall review statutes that  
7 mandate that health carriers provide benefits for certain conditions or  
8 services, and that require health carriers to offer certain services as  
9 an option for individuals or groups purchasing a health benefit plan.  
10 For each mandate or requirement, the analysis must address:

11 (A) The cost of including the mandate or requirement in health  
12 benefit plans, and the impact that covering the mandate or requirement  
13 has on the utilization of other health services, expressed as a net  
14 premium cost or savings per member per month;

15 (B) A review of available evidence related to the clinical and  
16 cost-effectiveness of the mandate or requirement; and

17 (C) An assessment of whether market demand has already resulted in  
18 inclusion of the mandate or requirement in a significant number of  
19 health benefit plans in states that do not have such a mandate or  
20 requirement; and

21 (ii) The second phase of the analysis must analyze a sample of at  
22 least ten health conditions or chronic illnesses that are prevalent  
23 among residents of Washington state. For each health condition or  
24 chronic illness, the analysis must include an assessment of the  
25 comparative cost and treatment outcomes of treatment provided by health  
26 care providers for whom primary treatment of the condition or illness  
27 is within their scope of practice.

28 (2) Submit an interim report on the first phase of the analysis to  
29 the governor and appropriate committees of the legislature by December  
30 1, 2006, and a final report by December 1, 2007. The report may  
31 include recommendations related to additional issues that should be  
32 addressed in the second phase of the analysis.

33 (3) Submit an interim report on the second phase of the analysis to  
34 the governor and appropriate committees of the legislature by December  
35 1, 2007, and a final report by December 1, 2008.

--- END ---