
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6188

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Johnson, Keiser, Oke, Rockefeller, Thibaudeau and Kohl-Welles)

READ FIRST TIME 01/30/06.

1 AN ACT Relating to health benefit plans offering coverage for
2 prostate cancer screening; adding a new section to chapter 41.05 RCW;
3 adding a new section to chapter 48.20 RCW; adding a new section to
4 chapter 48.21 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.44 RCW; adding a
5 new section to chapter 48.46 RCW; adding a new section to chapter
6 48.125 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 70.47 RCW; adding a new
7 section to chapter 74.09 RCW; and making an appropriation.

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

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 41.05 RCW
10 to read as follows:

11 (1) Each plan offered to public employees and their covered
12 dependents under this chapter that is not subject to the provisions of
13 Title 48 RCW and is issued or renewed after December 31, 2006, shall
14 provide coverage for prostate cancer screening, provided that the
15 screening is delivered upon the recommendation of the patient's
16 physician, advanced registered nurse practitioner, or physician
17 assistant.

18 (2) This section shall not be construed to prevent the application
19 of standard policy provisions applicable to other benefits, such as

1 deductible or copayment provisions. This section does not limit the
2 authority of the health care authority to negotiate rates and contract
3 with specific providers for the delivery of prostate cancer screening
4 services. This section shall not apply to medicare supplemental
5 policies or supplemental contracts covering a specified disease or
6 other limited benefits.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 48.20 RCW
8 to read as follows:

9 (1) Each disability insurance policy issued or renewed after
10 December 31, 2006, that provides coverage for hospital or medical
11 expenses shall provide coverage for prostate cancer screening, provided
12 that the screening is delivered upon the recommendation of the
13 patient's physician, advanced registered nurse practitioner, or
14 physician assistant.

15 (2) This section shall not be construed to prevent the application
16 of standard policy provisions applicable to other benefits, such as
17 deductible or copayment provisions. This section does not limit the
18 authority of an insurer to negotiate rates and contract with specific
19 providers for the delivery of prostate cancer screening services. This
20 section shall not apply to medicare supplemental policies or
21 supplemental contracts covering a specified disease or other limited
22 benefits.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 48.21 RCW
24 to read as follows:

25 (1) Each group disability insurance policy issued or renewed after
26 December 31, 2006, that provides coverage for hospital or medical
27 expenses shall provide coverage for prostate cancer screening, provided
28 that the screening is delivered upon the recommendation of the
29 patient's physician, advanced registered nurse practitioner, or
30 physician assistant.

31 (2) This section shall not be construed to prevent the application
32 of standard policy provisions applicable to other benefits, such as
33 deductible or copayment provisions. This section does not limit the
34 authority of an insurer to negotiate rates and contract with specific
35 providers for the delivery of prostate cancer screening services. This

1 section shall not apply to medicare supplemental policies or
2 supplemental contracts covering a specified disease or other limited
3 benefits.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 48.44 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) Each health care service contract issued or renewed after
7 December 31, 2006, that provides coverage for hospital or medical
8 expenses shall provide coverage for prostate cancer screening, provided
9 that the screening is delivered upon the recommendation of the
10 patient's physician, advanced registered nurse practitioner, or
11 physician assistant.

12 (2) This section shall not be construed to prevent the application
13 of standard policy provisions applicable to other benefits, such as
14 deductible or copayment provisions. This section does not limit the
15 authority of a contractor to negotiate rates and contract with specific
16 providers for the delivery of prostate cancer screening services. This
17 section shall not apply to medicare supplemental policies or
18 supplemental contracts covering a specified disease or other limited
19 benefits.

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

22 (1) Each health maintenance agreement issued or renewed after
23 December 31, 2006, that provides coverage for hospital or medical
24 expenses shall provide coverage for prostate cancer screening, provided
25 that the screening is delivered upon the recommendation of the
26 patient's physician, advanced registered nurse practitioner, or
27 physician assistant.

28 (2) All services must be provided by the health maintenance
29 organization or rendered upon a referral by the health maintenance
30 organization.

31 (3) This section shall not be construed to prevent the application
32 of standard policy provisions applicable to other benefits, such as
33 deductible or copayment provisions. This section does not limit the
34 authority of a health maintenance organization to negotiate rates and
35 contract with specific providers for the delivery of prostate cancer

1 screening services. This section shall not apply to medicare
2 supplemental policies or supplemental contracts covering a specified
3 disease or other limited benefits.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 48.125 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) Each self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement
7 established, operated, providing benefits, or maintained in this state
8 after December 31, 2006, that provides coverage for hospital or medical
9 expenses shall provide coverage for prostate cancer screening, provided
10 that the screening is delivered upon the recommendation of the
11 patient's physician, advanced registered nurse practitioner, or
12 physician assistant.

13 (2) This section shall not be construed to prevent the application
14 of standard policy provisions applicable to other benefits, such as
15 deductible or copayment provisions. This section does not limit the
16 authority of a self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement to
17 negotiate rates and contract with specific providers for the delivery
18 of prostate cancer screening services.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 70.47 RCW
20 to read as follows:

21 (1) Any schedule of benefits established or renewed by the
22 Washington basic health plan after December 31, 2006, shall provide
23 coverage for prostate cancer screening, provided that the screening is
24 delivered upon the recommendation of the patient's physician, advanced
25 registered nurse practitioner, or physician assistant.

26 (2) This section shall not be construed to prevent the application
27 of standard policy provisions applicable to other benefits, such as
28 deductible or copayment provisions. This section does not limit the
29 authority of the health care authority to negotiate rates and contract
30 with specific providers for the delivery of prostate cancer screening
31 services.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** A new section is added to chapter 74.09 RCW
33 to read as follows:

34 The department shall provide coverage for prostate cancer screening

1 under this chapter, provided that the screening is delivered upon the
2 recommendation of the patient's physician, advanced registered nurse
3 practitioner, or physician assistant.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** The sum of fifty thousand dollars, or as
5 much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the fiscal year
6 ending June 30, 2007, from the general fund to the department of health
7 for the implementation of a prostate cancer public awareness and
8 education campaign. The campaign shall place special emphasis on early
9 education for men over forty, African-American men, and men who are at
10 high risk for prostate cancer according to the guidelines of the
11 American cancer society.

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