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SENATE BILL 6188

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State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Senators Johnson, Keiser, Oke, Rockefeller, Thibaudeau and Kohl-Welles

Read first time 01/09/2006. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to health benefit plans offering coverage for  
2 prostate cancer screening; adding a new section to chapter 48.20 RCW;  
3 adding a new section to chapter 48.21 RCW; adding a new section to  
4 chapter 48.44 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.46 RCW; and  
5 providing an effective date.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 48.20 RCW  
8 to read as follows:

9 (1) Any disability insurance that is offered, issued, or renewed in  
10 this state after December 31, 2006, which provides coverage to men  
11 forty years old and older in this state, shall offer coverage for  
12 annual screening for the early detection of prostate cancer in men over  
13 the age of forty years, according to the prostate cancer early  
14 detection guidelines of the national comprehensive cancer network. The  
15 coverage shall not be subject to policy deductibles.

16 (2) The benefit required in subsection (1) of this section shall in  
17 no way diminish or limit diagnostic benefits otherwise allowable under  
18 a health benefit plan. At least one screening shall be covered

1 annually for any man forty years of age or older, according to the  
2 prostate cancer early detection guidelines of the national  
3 comprehensive cancer network guidelines.

4 (3) For purposes of this section, "health benefit plan" includes a  
5 health plan as defined in RCW 48.43.005, any state or municipal health  
6 insurance plan, any program funded under Title XIX of the social  
7 security act, or such other publicly funded program, and any coverage  
8 provided by a multiple employer welfare arrangement.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 48.21 RCW  
10 to read as follows:

11 (1) Any group disability insurance that is offered, issued, or  
12 renewed in this state after December 31, 2006, which provides coverage  
13 to men forty years old and older in this state, shall offer coverage  
14 for annual screening for the early detection of prostate cancer in men  
15 over the age of forty years, according to the prostate cancer early  
16 detection guidelines of the national comprehensive cancer network. The  
17 coverage shall not be subject to policy deductibles.

18 (2) The benefit required in subsection (1) of this section shall in  
19 no way diminish or limit diagnostic benefits otherwise allowable under  
20 a health benefit plan. At least one screening shall be covered  
21 annually for any man forty years of age or older, according to the  
22 prostate cancer early detection guidelines of the national  
23 comprehensive cancer network guidelines.

24 (3) For purposes of this section, "health benefit plan" includes a  
25 health plan as defined in RCW 48.43.005, any state or municipal health  
26 insurance plan, any program funded under Title XIX of the social  
27 security act, or such other publicly funded program, and any coverage  
28 provided by a multiple employer welfare arrangement.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 48.44 RCW  
30 to read as follows:

31 (1) Any health care service contractor that offers, issues, or  
32 renews in this state after December 31, 2006, which provides coverage  
33 to men forty years old and older in this state, shall offer coverage  
34 for annual screening for the early detection of prostate cancer in men  
35 over the age of forty years, according to the prostate cancer early

1 detection guidelines of the national comprehensive cancer network. The  
2 coverage shall not be subject to policy deductibles.

3 (2) The benefit required in subsection (1) of this section shall in  
4 no way diminish or limit diagnostic benefits otherwise allowable under  
5 a health benefit plan. At least one screening shall be covered  
6 annually for any man forty years of age or older, according to the  
7 prostate cancer early detection guidelines of the national  
8 comprehensive cancer network guidelines.

9 (3) For purposes of this section, "health benefit plan" includes a  
10 health plan as defined in RCW 48.43.005, any state or municipal health  
11 insurance plan, any program funded under Title XIX of the social  
12 security act, or such other publicly funded program, and any coverage  
13 provided by a multiple employer welfare arrangement.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 48.46 RCW  
15 to read as follows:

16 (1) Any health maintenance organization that offers, issues, or  
17 renews in this state after December 31, 2006, which provides coverage  
18 to men forty years old and older in this state, shall offer coverage  
19 for annual screening for the early detection of prostate cancer in men  
20 over the age of forty years, according to the prostate cancer early  
21 detection guidelines of the national comprehensive cancer network. The  
22 coverage shall not be subject to policy deductibles.

23 (2) The benefit required in subsection (1) of this section shall in  
24 no way diminish or limit diagnostic benefits otherwise allowable under  
25 a health benefit plan. At least one screening shall be covered  
26 annually for any man forty years of age or older, according to the  
27 prostate cancer early detection guidelines of the national  
28 comprehensive cancer network guidelines.

29 (3) For purposes of this section, "health benefit plan" includes a  
30 health plan as defined in RCW 48.43.005, any state or municipal health  
31 insurance plan, any program funded under Title XIX of the social  
32 security act, or such other publicly funded program, and any coverage  
33 provided by a multiple employer welfare arrangement.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act takes effect January 1, 2007.

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