

HB 1336-S - DIGEST

(DIGEST OF PROPOSED 1ST SUBSTITUTE)

Finds that the inability to purchase hearing aids adversely affects hearing-impaired people of all ages and impacts the employment and educational opportunities of hearing-impaired children and adults in Washington state by limiting communication options. To provide these individuals with equal opportunity and protect the well-being of the population, there is an intent to establish insurance coverage provisions for hearing aids.

Provides that covered hearing instruments and related services shall be recommended by the patient's physician or advanced registered nurse practitioner as authorized by the nursing care quality assurance commission under chapter 18.79 RCW or physician assistant under chapter 18.71A or 18.57A RCW.