
**Health Care & Wellness
Committee**

HB 1233

Brief Description: Addressing specified disease, hospital confinement, or other fixed payment insurance.

Sponsors: Representatives Ericks, Kirby, Roach, Williams, Jarrett and Simpson.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Redefines "Health plan" to include illness-triggered fixed payment insurance, fixed payment insurance, or other fixed payment insurance offered as an independent, noncoordinated benefit.

Hearing Date: 1/24/07

Staff: Dave Knutson (786-7146).

Background:

Some insurance companies offer a limited benefit medical policy that allows employers to offer routine health and life insurance to their employees. Such a policy allows an employer to purchase coverage for employees that provides a calendar year maximum amount that will be covered for doctor's office visits, preventive care, prescription drug coverage, emergency room visits, surgery, and other procedures. A question has been raised whether such a policy is included in the statutory definition of "Health plan" in Title 48 RCW.

Summary of Bill:

The definition of "Health plan" is modified to include illness-triggered fixed payment insurance, fixed payment insurance, or other fixed payment insurance offered as an independent, noncoordinated benefit.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.