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SENATE BILL 6083

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State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2007 Regular Session

By Senators Pflug, Keiser, Parlette, Kastama and Rasmussen

Read first time 02/19/2007. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1            AN ACT Relating to access to medical information for physicians;  
2 adding a new section to chapter 18.71 RCW; adding a new section to  
3 chapter 18.57 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 28B.20 RCW.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 18.71 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7            (1) The legislature finds that physicians licensed under this  
8 chapter require easy and timely access to medical journals and other  
9 related scientific and evidence-based information on a regular basis.  
10 The University of Washington library system has over one hundred  
11 medical journals indexed and current, online and in other forms, for  
12 all physicians with teaching appointments at the university. Other  
13 material critical to ensuring high quality care may be available in the  
14 future, including certified patient aids for use in shared decision  
15 making with patients contemplating treatment options. Washington  
16 physicians without these appointments do not currently have access to  
17 these journals and related materials.

18            (2) Physicians licensed under this chapter shall pay a fee of  
19 twenty-five dollars in addition to their annual licensing fee to the

1 department of health. That money shall be reserved and transferred to  
2 the University of Washington library system by the department to  
3 provide online and other access for all licensed physicians in the  
4 state to the medical journals and related material housed, online,  
5 written, or otherwise in the University of Washington library system.

6 (3) The department of health shall provide funds solely from the  
7 fees from physicians under this section to the University of Washington  
8 for this purpose and shall issue to each licensed physician the  
9 requisite passwords and access information in the mailing of his or her  
10 annual license.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 18.57 RCW  
12 to read as follows:

13 (1) The legislature finds that physicians licensed under this  
14 chapter require easy and timely access to medical journals and other  
15 related scientific and evidence-based information on a regular basis.  
16 The University of Washington library system has over one hundred  
17 medical journals indexed and current, online and in other forms, for  
18 all physicians with teaching appointments at the university. Other  
19 material critical to ensuring high quality care may be available in the  
20 future, including certified patient aids for use in shared decision  
21 making with patients contemplating treatment options. Washington  
22 physicians without these appointments do not currently have access to  
23 these journals and related materials.

24 (2) Physicians licensed under this chapter shall pay a fee of  
25 twenty-five dollars in addition to their annual licensing fee to the  
26 department. That money shall be reserved and transferred to the  
27 University of Washington library system by the department to provide  
28 online and other access for all licensed physicians in the state to the  
29 medical journals and related material housed, online, written, or  
30 otherwise in the University of Washington library system.

31 (3) The department shall provide funds solely from the fees from  
32 physicians under this section to the University of Washington for this  
33 purpose and shall issue to each licensed physician the requisite  
34 passwords and access information in the mailing of his or her annual  
35 license.

1        NEW SECTION.   **Sec. 3.**   A new section is added to chapter 28B.20 RCW  
2   to read as follows:

3        The University of Washington shall cooperate with the department of  
4   health in the implementation of sections 1 and 2 of this act.

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