

SSB 5913 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Health Care & Wellness

ADOPTED 04/08/2009

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 43.70.110 and 2007 c 259 s 11 are each amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 (1) The secretary shall charge fees to the licensee for obtaining  
6 a license. After June 30, 1995, municipal corporations providing  
7 emergency medical care and transportation services pursuant to chapter  
8 18.73 RCW shall be exempt from such fees, provided that such other  
9 emergency services shall only be charged for their pro rata share of  
10 the cost of licensure and inspection, if appropriate. The secretary  
11 may waive the fees when, in the discretion of the secretary, the fees  
12 would not be in the best interest of public health and safety, or when  
13 the fees would be to the financial disadvantage of the state.

14 (2) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, fees  
15 charged shall be based on, but shall not exceed, the cost to the  
16 department for the licensure of the activity or class of activities and  
17 may include costs of necessary inspection.

18 (3) License fees shall include amounts in addition to the cost of  
19 licensure activities in the following circumstances:

20 (a) For registered nurses and licensed practical nurses licensed  
21 under chapter 18.79 RCW, support of a central nursing resource center  
22 as provided in RCW 18.79.202, until June 30, 2013;

23 (b) For all health care providers licensed under RCW 18.130.040,  
24 the cost of regulatory activities for retired volunteer medical worker  
25 licensees as provided in RCW 18.130.360; and

26 (c)(i) For physicians licensed under chapter 18.71 RCW, physician  
27 assistants licensed under chapter 18.71A RCW, osteopathic physicians  
28 licensed under chapter 18.57 RCW, osteopathic physicians' assistants  
29 licensed under chapter 18.57A RCW, naturopaths licensed under chapter  
30 18.36A RCW, podiatrists licensed under chapter 18.22 RCW, chiropractors

1 licensed under chapter 18.25 RCW, psychologists licensed under chapter  
2 18.83 RCW, registered nurses licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW,  
3 optometrists licensed under chapter 18.53 RCW, mental health counselors  
4 licensed under chapter 18.225 RCW, massage therapists licensed under  
5 chapter 18.108 RCW, clinical social workers licensed under chapter  
6 18.225 RCW, and acupuncturists licensed under chapter 18.06 RCW, the  
7 license fees shall include up to an additional twenty-five dollars to  
8 be transferred by the department to the University of Washington for  
9 the purposes of RCW 43.70.112. However, each person subject to this  
10 subsection (3)(c) is required to pay only one surcharge of up to  
11 twenty-five dollars annually for the purposes of RCW 43.70.112,  
12 regardless of how many professional licenses he or she holds. Each  
13 year, by December 1st, the department shall provide an annual  
14 accounting of the use of the surcharge paid under this subsection,  
15 including the amounts paid by each of the professions subject to the  
16 surcharge. The accounting must be transmitted by electronic mail to  
17 the members of the health care committees of the legislature.

18 (ii) Annually, beginning within one year after the program begins,  
19 the department shall convene a user advisory group to review the online  
20 access program under RCW 43.70.112 and make recommendations for  
21 improving the program. The work group must include a licensed  
22 professional from each of the categories of professionals paying the  
23 surcharge under (c)(i) of this subsection, a department representative,  
24 and a representative from the University of Washington.

25 (4) Department of health advisory committees may review fees  
26 established by the secretary for licenses and comment upon the  
27 appropriateness of the level of such fees.

28 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.70.112 and 2007 c 259 s 12 are each amended to read  
29 as follows:

30 Within the amounts transferred from the department of health under  
31 RCW 43.70.110(3), the University of Washington shall, through the  
32 health sciences library, provide online access to selected vital  
33 clinical resources, medical journals, decision support tools, and  
34 evidence-based reviews of procedures, drugs, and devices to the health  
35 professionals listed in RCW 43.70.110(3)(c). Online access shall be  
36 available no later than January 1, 2009. Each year, by December 1st,  
37 the University of Washington shall provide an annual accounting of the

1 use of the funds transferred, including which categories of health  
2 professionals are using the materials available under the program. The  
3 accounting must be transmitted by electronic mail to the members of the  
4 health care committees of the legislature."

EFFECT: The amendment (1) adds that the DOH must also provide an accounting of the use of the funds paid under the online access program, and that both the DOH and the University of Washington must provide the accounting to the legislative health care committees by December 1 each year; (2) requires the DOH to convene a user advisory group to review the online access program and make recommendations for improving the program; and (3) makes various technical changes.

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