

SHB 1869 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Health & Long-Term Care

ADOPTED AND ENGROSSED 04/02/2009

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

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 70.01 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) Health care providers licensed under Title 18 RCW and health
6 care facilities licensed under Title 70 RCW, shall provide the
7 following to a patient upon request:

8 (a) An estimate of fees and charges related to a specific service,
9 visit, or stay; and

10 (b) Information regarding other types of fees or charges a patient
11 may receive in conjunction with their visit to the provider or
12 facility. Hospitals licensed under chapter 70.41 RCW may fulfill this
13 requirement by providing a statement and contact information as
14 described in RCW 70.41.400.

15 (2) Providers and facilities listed in subsection (1) of this
16 section may, after disclosing estimated charges and fees to a patient,
17 refer the patient to the patient's insurer, if applicable, for specific
18 information on the insurer's charges and fees, any cost-sharing
19 responsibilities required of the patient, and the network status of
20 ancillary providers who may or may not share the same network status as
21 the provider or facility.

22 (3) Except for hospitals licensed under chapter 70.41 RCW,
23 providers and facilities listed in subsection (1) of this section must
24 post a notice in a location visible to all patients that says, "You
25 have the right to know the estimated cost of your health services
26 before you consent to the services. Please do not hesitate to ask for
27 information."

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 70.41 RCW
29 to read as follows:

1 Hospitals licensed under this chapter shall provide notice to
2 patients undergoing scheduled elective procedures containing at least
3 the following language: "You may request information about the
4 estimated charges of your hospital services. Please do not hesitate to
5 ask for information."

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6 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "information;" strike the
7 remainder of the title and insert "adding a new section to chapter
8 70.01 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 70.41 RCW."

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