

**SHB 1869 - S AMD 447**

By Senators Keiser and Pflug

ADOPTED 4/22/2009

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

3

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

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

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

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

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

23 (3) Except for hospitals licensed under chapter 70.41 RCW,  
24 providers and facilities listed in subsection (1) of this section  
25 shall post a sign in patient registration areas containing at least  
26 the following language: "Information about the estimated charges of  
27

1 your health services is available upon request. Please do not  
2 hesitate to ask for information."

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

5 Hospitals licensed under this chapter shall post a sign in  
6 patient registration areas containing at least the following  
7 language: "Information about the estimated charges of your hospital  
8 services is available upon request. Please do not hesitate to ask  
9 for information.""

10  
11  
12  
13 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "information;" strike the  
14 remainder of the title and insert "and adding a new section to chapter  
15 70.01 RCW, and chapter 70.41 RCW."  
16

18 EFFECT: Providers and facilities may refer the  
19 patient to the patient's insurer for specific information on the  
20 insurer's charges and fees, any cost-sharing responsibilities  
21 required of the patient, and the network status of ancillary  
22 providers who may or may not share the same network status as the  
provider or facility; Providers and facilities must post a sign in  
patient registration areas indicating patients may ask about the  
estimated charges of the health services.

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