
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5191

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senate Financial Institutions, Housing & Insurance (originally sponsored by Senators Hobbs and Benton)

READ FIRST TIME 02/11/09.

1 AN ACT Relating to noninsurance benefits included in life insurance
2 policies; adding a new section to chapter 48.23 RCW; and adding a new
3 section to chapter 48.24 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 48.23 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) A life insurer may include the following noninsurance benefits
8 as part of a policy of individual life insurance, with the prior
9 approval of the commissioner:

10 (a) Will preparation services;

11 (b) Financial planning and estate planning services;

12 (c) Probate and estate settlement services; and

13 (d) Such other services as the commissioner may identify by rule.

14 (2) The commissioner may adopt rules to ensure disclosure of the
15 noninsurance benefits permitted under this section, including but not
16 limited to guidelines concerning the provision of the coverage.

17 (3) Those providing the services listed in subsection (1) of this
18 section must be appropriately licensed.

1 (4) This section does not require the commissioner to approve any
2 particular proposed noninsurance benefit. The commissioner may
3 disapprove any proposed noninsurance benefit that the commissioner
4 determines may tend to promote or facilitate the violation of any other
5 section of this title.

6 (5) This section does not expand, limit, or otherwise affect the
7 authority and ethical obligations of those who are authorized by the
8 state supreme court to practice law in this state. This section does
9 not limit the prohibition against the unauthorized practice of law
10 under chapter 2.48 RCW.

11 (6) This section does not affect the application of chapter 21.20
12 RCW.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 48.24 RCW
14 to read as follows:

15 (1) A life insurer may include the following noninsurance benefits
16 as part of a policy or certificate of group life insurance, with the
17 prior approval of the commissioner:

- 18 (a) Will preparation services;
- 19 (b) Financial planning and estate planning services;
- 20 (c) Probate and estate settlement services; and
- 21 (d) Such other services as the commissioner may identify by rule.

22 (2) The commissioner may adopt rules to regulate the disclosure of
23 noninsurance benefits permitted under this section, including but not
24 limited to guidelines regarding the coverage provided under the policy
25 or certificate of insurance.

26 (3) Those providing the services listed in subsection (1) of this
27 section must be appropriately licensed.

28 (4) This section does not require the commissioner to approve any
29 particular proposed noninsurance benefit. The commissioner may
30 disapprove any proposed noninsurance benefit that the commissioner
31 determines may tend to promote or facilitate the violation of any other
32 section of this title.

33 (5) This section does not expand, limit, or otherwise affect the
34 authority and ethical obligations of those who are authorized by the
35 state supreme court to practice law in this state. This section does
36 not limit the prohibition against the unauthorized practice of law
37 under chapter 2.48 RCW.

1 (6) This section does not affect the application of chapter 21.20
2 RCW.

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