

**ESHB 1947** - S AMD TO S-2990.3 385

By Senator Ericksen

NOT ADOPTED 06/28/2013

1 On page 4, line 24, insert the following:

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3 "NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 43.71.  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) By July 1, 2014, the exchange shall, in collaboration with the  
6 office of the insurance commissioner, apply to the secretary of the  
7 United States department of health and human services for a waiver to  
8 authorize Washington state to explore the opportunity of offering  
9 multiple private health benefit exchanges in Washington state by  
10 January 1, 2016.

11 (2) The exchange, in collaboration with the office of the  
12 insurance commissioner, must hire a neutral consultant to conduct  
13 analyses and make preparations for the transition from a single health  
14 benefit exchange to multiple private health benefit exchanges.  
15 Research must include, but is not limited to:

16 (a) Seeking clarity on how advance premium tax credits and cost-  
17 sharing subsidies would be accessed through multiple organizations;

18 (b) Conducting a cost-benefit analysis and assessment of the  
19 impacts on consumers and the insurance market; and

20 (c) Suggested statutory changes required in order to implement the  
21 new private health benefit exchanges.

22 (3) The current exchange may continue to operate after  
23 implementation of the private health benefit exchanges. However, the  
24 current exchange shall receive no special treatment or aid that would  
25 create an unlevel playing field or advantage over the private health  
26 benefit exchanges."

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1 Renumber the remaining sections and correct internal references.

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EFFECT: By July 1, 2014, the Health Benefit Exchange must submit a waiver request to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to authorize Washington to explore the opportunity of offering multiple private health benefit exchanges in the state by January 1, 2016.

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