
HOUSE BILL 2499

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Representatives Caldier, Moeller, Cody, Rodne, Manweller, Young, Kochmar, Appleton, Muri, and Gregerson

Read first time 01/14/16. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to insurance coverage of dental procedures;
2 adding a new section to chapter 48.43 RCW; and providing an effective
3 date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 48.43
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1)(a) A health carrier offering a dental only plan may not deny
8 a claim for a covered dental service provided by a treating dentist
9 to a covered person if the service was provided within the standard
10 of care.

11 (b) If the commissioner determines that a health carrier denied a
12 claim for a covered dental service that was provided within the
13 standard of care:

14 (i) The dentist may bill the covered person for the cost of the
15 service; and

16 (ii) The carrier may not advertise in promotional materials sent
17 to prospective or current members that the carrier covers the dental
18 service.

19 (c) In determining whether a dental service was performed within
20 the standard of care, the commissioner shall consult with the dental
21 quality assurance commission established in RCW 18.32.0351.

1 (2) For purposes of this section, "health carrier," in addition
2 to the definition in RCW 48.43.005, also includes health care service
3 contractors, limited health care service contractors, and disability
4 insurers offering dental only coverage.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act takes effect January 1, 2017.

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