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SENATE BILL 6023

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senator Pearson

Read first time 02/18/15. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to mitigating the fiscal impact to hospitals  
2 related to care provided to department of corrections inmates; and  
3 amending RCW 72.10.030.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 72.10.030 and 2012 c 237 s 2 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (1) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the secretary  
8 may enter into contracts with health care practitioners, health care  
9 facilities, and other entities or agents as may be necessary to  
10 provide medical, behavioral health, and chemical dependency treatment  
11 care to inmates. The contracts shall not cause the termination of  
12 classified employees of the department rendering the services at the  
13 time the contract is executed.

14 (2) In contracting for services, the secretary is authorized to  
15 provide for indemnification of health care practitioners who cannot  
16 obtain professional liability insurance through reasonable effort,  
17 from liability on any action, claim, or proceeding instituted against  
18 them arising out of the good faith performance or failure of  
19 performance of services on behalf of the department. The contracts  
20 may provide that for the purposes of chapter 4.92 RCW only, those

1 health care practitioners with whom the department has contracted  
2 shall be considered state employees.

3 (3) Providers of hospital services that are hospitals licensed  
4 under chapter 70.41 RCW shall contract with the department for  
5 inpatient, outpatient, and ancillary services if deemed appropriate  
6 by the department. Payments to hospitals shall conform to the  
7 following requirements:

8 (a) The department shall pay hospitals through the provider one  
9 system operated by the Washington state health care authority; and

10 (b) The department shall reimburse the hospitals (~~(using the~~  
11 ~~reimbursement methodology in use by the state medicaid program; and~~

12 ~~(c) The department shall only reimburse a provider of hospital~~  
13 ~~services to a hospital patient at a rate no more than the amount~~  
14 ~~payable under the medicaid reimbursement structure plus a percentage~~  
15 ~~increase that is determined in the operating budget, regardless of~~  
16 ~~whether the hospital is located within or outside of Washington)) the  
17 full cost of providing the services.~~

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