
SENATE BILL 6269

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2016 Regular Session

By Senators Becker, Dammeier, Bailey, Parlette, Brown, and Warnick

Read first time 01/13/16. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to defining "reasonable effort" for the purposes
2 of health data and charity care; and amending RCW 70.170.020.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.170.020 and 1995 c 269 s 2203 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 As used in this chapter:

7 (1) "Department" means department of health.

8 (2) "Hospital" means any health care institution which is
9 required to qualify for a license under RCW 70.41.020(~~((+2+))~~) (5); or
10 as a psychiatric hospital under chapter 71.12 RCW.

11 (3) "Secretary" means secretary of health.

12 (4) "Charity care" means necessary hospital health care rendered
13 to indigent persons, to the extent that the persons are unable to pay
14 for the care or to pay deductibles or co-insurance amounts required
15 by a third-party payer, as determined by the department.

16 (5) "Reasonable effort" means that a hospital has filed and
17 operates with a department-approved charity care policy and maintains
18 records demonstrating that it has operated in compliance with that
19 policy.

20 (6) "Sliding fee schedule" means a hospital-determined, publicly
21 available schedule of discounts to charges for persons deemed

1 eligible for charity care; such schedules shall be established after
2 consideration of guidelines developed by the department.

3 (~~(6)~~) (7) "Special studies" means studies which have not been
4 funded through the department's biennial or other legislative
5 appropriations.

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