
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6322

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Senate Law & Justice (originally sponsored by Senators Pearson and Hewitt)

READ FIRST TIME 02/05/16.

1 AN ACT Relating to the payment of health services by hospitals
2 for inmates; and amending RCW 72.10.030.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

16 (d) The department shall pay an enhanced rate of one hundred
17 fifty percent of the amount payable under the medicaid reimbursement
18 structure to hospitals that meet all of the following criteria:

19 (i) The hospital is an acute care hospital in Washington state
20 that does not receive cost-based payment as a critical access
21 hospital under the state medicaid program;

22 (ii) The hospital receives at least one and one-half percent of
23 its net patient revenues from services paid by the department; and

24 (iii) The hospital receives at least thirty-five percent of its
25 total net patient revenues from a combination of medicare and
26 medicaid net patient revenues.

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