
SENATE BILL 5823

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Senator Cleveland

Read first time 02/15/17. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to ensuring quality ambulance services for
2 medicaid beneficiaries by applying the medicare payment rate for
3 ambulance services furnished under medicaid by providers of ambulance
4 services; adding a new section to chapter 74.09 RCW; and creating a
5 new section.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds as follows:

8 (1) Quality ambulance services are essential to ensuring quality
9 of life for Washingtonians.

10 (2) A recent Washington state health care authority study found
11 that current medicaid reimbursement is between sixteen and twenty-
12 eight percent of what other payers reimburse for equivalent services
13 and is substantially below the level needed to cover the costs of
14 service. The previous study resulting in a fee increase specifically
15 for ambulance services occurred in 2004.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 74.09
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 Medicaid payment for ambulance services furnished by state
19 licensed ambulance services, must be at a rate not less than one

1 hundred percent of the payment rate that applies to those services
2 and providers under medicare.

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