

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1224**

66th Legislature  
2019 Regular Session

Passed by the House April 25, 2019  
Yeas 92 Nays 5

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**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 25, 2019  
Yeas 48 Nays 0

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**President of the Senate**

Approved

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1224** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

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**Chief Clerk**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1224**

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AS AMENDED BY THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Passed Legislature - 2019 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      66th Legislature                      2019 Regular Session**

**By** House Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Robinson, Macri, Ryu, Peterson, Frame, Tharinger, Bergquist, Gregerson, Jinkins, Ortiz-Self, Lovick, Doglio, Stanford, Appleton, Slatter, and Wylie)

READ FIRST TIME 03/01/19.

1            AN    ACT    Relating   to   prescription   drug   cost   transparency;  
2   reenacting   and   amending   RCW   74.09.215;   adding   a   new   chapter   to   Title  
3   43   RCW;   and   prescribing   penalties.

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

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    FINDINGS.   The   legislature   finds   that   the  
6   state   of   Washington   has   substantial   public   interest   in   the   following:

7            (1)   The   price   and   cost   of   prescription   drugs.   Washington   state   is  
8   a   major   purchaser   through   the   department   of   corrections,   the   health  
9   care   authority,   and   other   entities   acting   on   behalf   of   a   state  
10   purchaser;

11            (2)   Enacting   this   chapter   to   provide   notice   and   disclosure   of  
12   information   relating   to   the   cost   and   pricing   of   prescription   drugs   in  
13   order   to   provide   accountability   to   the   state   for   prescription   drug  
14   pricing;

15            (3)   Rising   drug   costs   and   consumer   ability   to   access   prescription  
16   drugs;   and

17            (4)   Containing   prescription   drug   costs.   It   is   essential   to  
18   understand   the   drivers   and   impacts   of   these   costs,   as   transparency   is  
19   typically   the   first   step   toward   cost   containment   and   greater   consumer  
20   access   to   needed   prescription   drugs.

1        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 2.**        DEFINITIONS. The definitions in this  
2 section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly  
3 requires otherwise.

4        (1) "Authority" means the health care authority.

5        (2) "Covered drug" means any prescription drug that:

6        (a) A covered manufacturer intends to introduce to the market at  
7 a wholesale acquisition cost of ten thousand dollars or more for a  
8 course of treatment lasting less than one month or a thirty-day  
9 supply, whichever period is longer; or

10        (b) Is currently on the market, is manufactured by a covered  
11 manufacturer, and has a wholesale acquisition cost of more than one  
12 hundred dollars for a course of treatment lasting less than one month  
13 or a thirty-day supply, and, taking into account only price increases  
14 that take effect after the effective date of this section, the  
15 manufacturer increases the wholesale acquisition cost at least:

16        (i) Twenty percent, including the proposed increase and the  
17 cumulative increase over one calendar year prior to the date of the  
18 proposed increase; or

19        (ii) Fifty percent, including the proposed increase and the  
20 cumulative increase over three calendar years prior to the date of  
21 the proposed increase.

22        (3) "Covered manufacturer" means a person, corporation, or other  
23 entity engaged in the manufacture of prescription drugs sold in or  
24 into Washington state. "Covered manufacturer" does not include a  
25 private label distributor or retail pharmacy that sells a drug under  
26 the retail pharmacy's store, or a prescription drug repackager.

27        (4) "Health care provider," "health plan," "health carrier," and  
28 "carrier" mean the same as in RCW 48.43.005.

29        (5) "Pharmacy benefit manager" means the same as in RCW  
30 19.340.010.

31        (6) "Pharmacy services administrative organization" means an  
32 entity that contracts with a pharmacy to act as the pharmacy's agent  
33 with respect to matters involving a pharmacy benefit manager, third-  
34 party payor, or other entities, including negotiating, executing, or  
35 administering contracts with the pharmacy benefit manager, third-  
36 party payor, or other entities and provides administrative services  
37 to pharmacies.

38        (7) "Prescription drug" means a drug regulated under chapter  
39 69.41 or 69.50 RCW, including generic, brand name, specialty drugs,

1 and biological products that are prescribed for outpatient use and  
2 distributed in a retail setting.

3 (8) "Qualifying price increase" means a price increase described  
4 in subsection (2)(b) of this section.

5 (9) "Wholesale acquisition cost" or "price" means, with respect  
6 to a prescription drug, the manufacturer's list price for the drug to  
7 wholesalers or direct purchasers in the United States, excluding any  
8 discounts, rebates, or reductions in price, for the most recent month  
9 for which the information is available, as reported in wholesale  
10 price guides or other publications of prescription drug pricing.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** HEALTH CARRIER REPORTING. Beginning  
12 October 1, 2019, and on a yearly basis thereafter, a health carrier  
13 must submit to the authority the following prescription drug cost and  
14 utilization data for the previous calendar year for each health plan  
15 it offers in the state:

16 (1) The twenty-five prescription drugs most frequently prescribed  
17 by health care providers participating in the plan's network;

18 (2) The twenty-five costliest prescription drugs expressed as a  
19 percentage of total plan prescription drug spending, and the plan's  
20 total spending for each of these prescription drugs;

21 (3) The twenty-five drugs with the highest year-over-year  
22 increase in wholesale acquisition cost, excluding drugs made  
23 available for the first time that plan year, and the percentages of  
24 the increases for each of these prescription drugs;

25 (4) The portion of the premium that is attributable to each of  
26 the following categories of covered prescription drugs, after  
27 accounting for all rebates and discounts:

- 28 (a) Brand name drugs;
- 29 (b) Generic drugs; and
- 30 (c) Specialty drugs;

31 (5) The year-over-year increase, calculated on a per member, per  
32 month basis and expressed as a percentage, in the total annual cost  
33 of each category of covered drugs listed in subsection (4) of this  
34 section, after accounting for all rebates and discounts;

35 (6) A comparison, calculated on a per member, per month basis, of  
36 the year-over-year increase in the cost of covered drugs to the year-  
37 over-year increase in the costs of other contributors to premiums,  
38 after accounting for all rebates and discounts;

39 (7) The name of each covered specialty drug; and

1 (8) The names of the twenty-five most frequently prescribed drugs  
2 for which the health plan received rebates from pharmaceutical  
3 manufacturers.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGER REPORTING. (1) By  
5 March 1st of each year, a pharmacy benefit manager must submit to the  
6 authority the following data from the previous calendar year:

7 (a) All discounts, including the total dollar amount and  
8 percentage discount, and all rebates received from a manufacturer for  
9 each drug on the pharmacy benefit manager's formularies;

10 (b) The total dollar amount of all discounts and rebates that are  
11 retained by the pharmacy benefit manager for each drug on the  
12 pharmacy benefit manager's formularies;

13 (c) Actual total reimbursement amounts for each drug the pharmacy  
14 benefit manager pays retail pharmacies after all direct and indirect  
15 administrative and other fees that have been retrospectively charged  
16 to the pharmacies are applied;

17 (d) The negotiated price health plans pay the pharmacy benefit  
18 manager for each drug on the pharmacy benefit manager's formularies;

19 (e) The amount, terms, and conditions relating to copayments,  
20 reimbursement options, and other payments or fees associated with a  
21 prescription drug benefit plan;

22 (f) Disclosure of any ownership interest the pharmacy benefit  
23 manager has in a pharmacy or health plan with which it conducts  
24 business; and

25 (g) The results of any appeal filed pursuant to RCW  
26 19.340.100(3).

27 (2) The information collected pursuant to this section is not  
28 subject to public disclosure under chapter 42.56 RCW.

29 (3) The authority may examine or audit the financial records of a  
30 pharmacy benefit manager for purposes of ensuring the information  
31 submitted under this section is accurate. Information the authority  
32 acquires in an examination of financial records pursuant to this  
33 subsection is proprietary and confidential.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGER COMPLIANCE. (1)  
35 No later than March 1st of each calendar year, each pharmacy benefit  
36 manager must file with the authority, in the form and detail as  
37 required by the authority, a report for the preceding calendar year

1 stating that the pharmacy benefit manager is in compliance with this  
2 chapter.

3 (2) A pharmacy benefit manager may not cause or knowingly permit  
4 the use of any advertisement, promotion, solicitation,  
5 representation, proposal, or offer that is untrue, deceptive, or  
6 misleading.

7 (3) An employer-sponsored self-funded health plan or a Taft-  
8 Hartley trust health plan may voluntarily provide the data described  
9 in subsection (1) of this section.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** MANUFACTURER REPORTING. (1) Beginning  
11 October 1, 2019, a covered manufacturer must submit to the authority  
12 the following data for each covered drug:

13 (a) A description of the specific financial and nonfinancial  
14 factors used to make the decision to set or increase the wholesale  
15 acquisition cost of the drug. In the event of a price increase, a  
16 covered manufacturer must also submit the amount of the increase and  
17 an explanation of how these factors explain the increase in the  
18 wholesale acquisition cost of the drug;

19 (b) The patent expiration date of the drug if it is under patent;

20 (c) Whether the drug is a multiple source drug, an innovator  
21 multiple source drug, a noninnovator multiple source drug, or a  
22 single source drug;

23 (d) The itemized cost for production and sales, including the  
24 annual manufacturing costs, annual marketing and advertising costs,  
25 total research and development costs, total costs of clinical trials  
26 and regulation, and total cost for acquisition of the drug; and

27 (e) The total financial assistance given by the manufacturer  
28 through assistance programs, rebates, and coupons.

29 (2) For all qualifying price increases of existing drugs, a  
30 manufacturer must submit the year the drug was introduced to market  
31 and the wholesale acquisition cost of the drug at the time of  
32 introduction.

33 (3) If a manufacturer increases the price of an existing drug it  
34 has manufactured for the previous five years or more, it must submit  
35 a schedule of wholesale acquisition cost increases for the drug for  
36 the previous five years.

37 (4) If a manufacturer acquired the drug within the previous five  
38 years, it must submit:

1 (a) The wholesale acquisition cost of the drug at the time of  
2 acquisition and in the calendar year prior to acquisition; and

3 (b) The name of the company from which the drug was acquired, the  
4 date acquired, and the purchase price.

5 (5) Except as provided in subsection (6) of this section, a  
6 covered manufacturer must submit the information required by this  
7 section:

8 (a) At least sixty days in advance of a qualifying price increase  
9 for a covered drug; and

10 (b) Within thirty days of release of a new covered drug to the  
11 market.

12 (6) For any drug approved under section 505(j) of the federal  
13 food, drug, and cosmetic act, as it existed on the effective date of  
14 this section, or a biosimilar approved under section 351(k) of the  
15 federal public health service act, as it existed on the effective  
16 date of this section, if submitting data in accordance with  
17 subsection (5)(a) of this section is not possible sixty days before  
18 the price increase, that submission must be made as soon as known but  
19 not later than the date of the price increase.

20 (7) The information submitted pursuant to this section is not  
21 subject to public disclosure under chapter 42.56 RCW.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** MANUFACTURER NOTICE OF NEW DRUG  
23 APPLICATIONS. (1) Beginning October 1, 2019, a manufacturer must  
24 submit written notice, in a form and manner specified by the  
25 authority, informing the authority that the manufacturer has filed  
26 with the FDA:

27 (a) A new drug application or biologics license application for a  
28 pipeline drug; or

29 (b) A biologics license application for a biological product.

30 (2) The notice must be filed within sixty days of the  
31 manufacturer receiving the applicable FDA approval date.

32 (3) Upon receipt of the notice, the authority may request from  
33 the manufacturer the following information if it believes the drug  
34 will have a significant impact on state expenditures:

35 (a) The primary disease, condition, or therapeutic area studied  
36 in connection with the new drug, and whether the drug is  
37 therapeutically indicated for such disease, condition, or therapeutic  
38 area;

39 (b) Each route of administration studied for the drug;

1 (c) Clinical trial comparators for the drug;

2 (d) The date at which the FDA must complete its review of the  
3 drug application pursuant to the federal prescription drug user fee  
4 act of 1992 (106 Stat. 4491; P.L. 102-571);

5 (e) Whether the FDA has designated the drug an orphan drug, a  
6 fast track product, or a breakthrough therapy; and

7 (f) Whether the FDA has designated the drug for accelerated  
8 approval, priority review, or if the drug contains a new molecular  
9 entity.

10 (4) A manufacturer may limit the information reported pursuant to  
11 this section to that which is otherwise in the public domain or  
12 publicly reported.

13 (5) The information collected pursuant to this section is not  
14 subject to public disclosure under chapter 42.56 RCW.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** MANUFACTURER NOTICE OF PRICE INCREASES.

16 (1) Beginning October 1, 2019, a manufacturer of a covered drug must  
17 notify the authority of a qualifying price increase in writing at  
18 least sixty days prior to the planned effective date of the increase.  
19 The notice must include:

20 (a) The date of the increase, the current wholesale acquisition  
21 cost of the prescription drug, and the dollar amount of the future  
22 increase in the wholesale acquisition cost of the prescription drug;  
23 and

24 (b) A statement regarding whether a change or improvement in the  
25 drug necessitates the price increase. If so, the manufacturer shall  
26 describe the change or improvement.

27 (2) For any drug approved under section 505(j) of the federal  
28 food, drug, and cosmetic act, as it existed on the effective date of  
29 this section, or a biosimilar approved under section 351(k) of the  
30 federal public health service act, as it existed on the effective  
31 date of this section, if notification is not possible sixty days  
32 before the price increase, that submission must be made as soon as  
33 known but not later than the date of the price increase.

34 (3) The information submitted pursuant to this section is not  
35 subject to public disclosure under chapter 42.56 RCW.

36 (4) By December 1, 2020, the authority must provide  
37 recommendations on how to provide advance notice of price increases  
38 to purchasers consistent with state and federal law.



1        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 9.**        PHARMACY SERVICES ADMINISTRATIVE  
2 ORGANIZATION REPORTING. (1) Beginning October 1, 2019, and on a  
3 yearly basis thereafter, a pharmacy services administrative  
4 organization representing a pharmacy or pharmacy chain in the state  
5 must submit to the authority the following data from the previous  
6 calendar year:

7        (a) The negotiated reimbursement rate of the twenty-five  
8 prescription drugs with the highest reimbursement rate;

9        (b) The twenty-five prescription drugs with the largest year-to-  
10 year change in reimbursement rate, expressed as a percentage and  
11 dollar amount; and

12        (c) The schedule of fees charged to pharmacies for the services  
13 provided by the pharmacy services administrative organization.

14        (2) Any pharmacy services administrative organization whose  
15 revenue is generated from flat service fees not connected to drug  
16 prices or volume, and paid by the pharmacy, is exempt from reporting.

17        NEW SECTION.        **Sec. 10.**        DATA COLLECTION AND ANNUAL REPORT. (1)  
18 The authority shall compile and analyze the data submitted by health  
19 carriers, pharmacy benefit managers, manufacturers, and pharmacy  
20 services administrative organizations pursuant to this chapter and  
21 prepare an annual report for the public and the legislature  
22 synthesizing the data to demonstrate the overall impact that drug  
23 costs, rebates, and other discounts have on health care premiums.

24        (2) The data in the report must be aggregated and must not reveal  
25 information specific to individual health carriers, pharmacy benefit  
26 managers, pharmacy services administrative organizations, individual  
27 prescription drugs, individual classes of prescription drugs,  
28 individual manufacturers, or discount amounts paid in connection with  
29 individual prescription drugs.

30        (3) Beginning January 1, 2021, and by each January 1st  
31 thereafter, the authority must publish the report on its web site.

32        (4) Except for the report, and as provided in subsection (5) of  
33 this section, the authority shall keep confidential all data  
34 submitted pursuant to sections 3 through 9 of this act.

35        (5) For purposes of public policy, upon request of a legislator,  
36 the authority must provide all data provided pursuant to sections 3  
37 through 9 of this act and any analysis prepared by the authority. Any  
38 information provided pursuant to this subsection must be kept  
39 confidential within the legislature and may not be publicly released.

1 (6) The data collected pursuant to this chapter is not subject to  
2 public disclosure under chapter 42.56 RCW.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** ENFORCEMENT. The authority may assess a  
4 fine of up to one thousand dollars per day for failure to comply with  
5 the requirements of sections 3 through 9 of this act. The assessment  
6 of a fine under this section is subject to review under the  
7 administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW. Fines collected  
8 under this section must be deposited in the medicaid fraud penalty  
9 account created in RCW 74.09.215.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** The authority must contact the California  
11 office of statewide health planning and development and the Oregon  
12 department of consumer and business services to develop strategies to  
13 reduce prescription drug costs and increase prescription drug cost  
14 transparency. The authority must make recommendations to the  
15 legislature for implementing joint state strategies, which may  
16 include a joint purchasing agreement, by January 1, 2020.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** RULE MAKING. The authority may adopt any  
18 rules necessary to implement the requirements of this chapter.

19 **Sec. 14.** RCW 74.09.215 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4 s 1902, 2013 2nd  
20 sp.s. c 4 s 997, and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 4 s 995 are each reenacted and  
21 amended to read as follows:

22 The medicaid fraud penalty account is created in the state  
23 treasury. All receipts from civil penalties collected under RCW  
24 74.09.210, all receipts received under judgments or settlements that  
25 originated under a filing under the federal false claims act, all  
26 receipts from fines received pursuant to section 11 of this act, and  
27 all receipts received under judgments or settlements that originated  
28 under the state medicaid fraud false claims act, chapter 74.66 RCW,  
29 must be deposited into the account. Moneys in the account may be  
30 spent only after appropriation and must be used only for medicaid  
31 services, fraud detection and prevention activities, recovery of  
32 improper payments, for other medicaid fraud enforcement activities,  
33 and the prescription monitoring program established in chapter 70.225  
34 RCW. For the 2013-2015 fiscal biennium, moneys in the account may be  
35 spent on inpatient and outpatient rebasing and conversion to the  
36 tenth version of the international classification of diseases. For

1 the 2011-2013 fiscal biennium, moneys in the account may be spent on  
2 inpatient and outpatient rebasing.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** Sections 1 through 13 of this act  
4 constitute a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.

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