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## Health Care & Wellness Committee

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### SB 5242

**Brief Description:** Prohibiting cost sharing for abortion.

**Sponsors:** Senators Cleveland, Robinson, Dhingra, Frame, Hasegawa, Hunt, Keiser, Lovelett, Nobles, Pedersen, Randall, Saldaña, Salomon, Stanford, Valdez, Wellman and Wilson, C..

<p><b>Brief Summary of Bill</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prohibits health plans from imposing cost-sharing for abortion services.</li></ul>
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**Hearing Date:** 3/17/23

**Staff:** Kim Weidenaar (786-7120).

**Background:**

A health plan, including student health plans, that provides coverage for maternity care or services must also provide substantially equivalent coverage to permit the abortion of a pregnancy. The plan may not limit a person's access to services related to the abortion of a pregnancy, except for generally applicable terms and conditions, including cost-sharing. A health plan is not required to cover abortions that would be illegal under state law.

**Summary of Bill:**

For health plans, including health plans offered to public employees and their covered dependents, issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2024, a health carrier may not impose cost sharing for abortion of a pregnancy.

For health plans offered as a qualifying health plan for a health savings account, the health plan must establish the plan's cost sharing for the coverage of abortion services at the minimum level

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necessary to preserve the enrollee's ability to claim tax exempt contributions and withdrawals from the enrollee's health savings account.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.