

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5396

As Reported by Senate Committee On:
Health & Long Term Care, January 24, 2023

Title: An act relating to cost sharing for diagnostic and supplemental breast examinations.

Brief Description: Concerning cost sharing for diagnostic and supplemental breast examinations.

Sponsors: Senators Wilson, L., Boehnke, Frame, Hunt, Kauffman, Kuderer, Rivers, Rolfes, Shewmake, Valdez and Warnick.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Health & Long Term Care: 1/20/23, 1/24/23 [DPS-WM, w/oRec].

Brief Summary of First Substitute Bill

- Requires health carriers that provide coverage for supplemental and diagnostic breast exams to provide coverage without cost sharing.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & LONG TERM CARE

Majority Report: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5396 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass and be referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

Signed by Senators Cleveland, Chair; Robinson, Vice Chair; Rivers, Ranking Member; Muzzall, Assistant Ranking Member; Conway, Dhingra, Holy, Randall and Van De Wege.

Minority Report: That it be referred without recommendation.

Signed by Senator Padden.

Staff: Greg Attanasio (786-7410)

Background: Under the Affordable Care Act, health benefit plans must provide, at a minimum, coverage with no cost sharing, for preventive or wellness services that have a

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rating of A or B in the current recommendations of the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF). The USPSTF recommends, at a B grade, screening mammography, with or without clinical breast examination, every one to two years for women age 40 years and older.

Summary of Bill (First Substitute): Beginning January 1, 2024, for health plans that include coverage of supplemental breast examinations and diagnostic breast examinations, health carriers may not impose cost sharing for such examinations.

"Diagnostic breast examination" means a medically necessary and appropriate examination, including an examination using diagnostic mammography, digital breast tomosynthesis, breast magnetic resonance imaging, or ultrasound, that is used to evaluate an abnormality seen or suspected from a screening examination for breast cancer, or detected by another means of examination.

"Supplemental breast examination" means a medically necessary and appropriate examination, including an examination using digital breast tomosynthesis, breast magnetic resonance imaging or ultrasound, that is used to screen for breast cancer based an individual's personal or family medical history, or additional factors that may increase the individual's risk of breast cancer.

EFFECT OF CHANGES MADE BY HEALTH & LONG TERM CARE COMMITTEE (First Substitute):

- Adds digital breast tomosynthesis to list of diagnostic and supplemental breast exams to be covered without cost-sharing.
- Amends current statutes requiring diagnostic mammography coverage to require the coverage without cost-sharing.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 14, 2023.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony on Original Bill: *The committee recommended a different version of the bill than what was heard.* PRO: Additional screening is often needed after a mammogram to determine if an abnormality is cancerous and to evaluate treatment options. Patient out-of-pocket costs can be high for supplemental screenings, and delaying care because of cost can result in worse health outcomes.

CON: The federal government is currently evaluating supplemental screening options. The

state should wait for the federal review to be completed as well as further evaluate the fiscal impact to the state.

Persons Testifying: PRO: Senator Lynda Wilson, Prime Sponsor; Kirsten Smith, Susan G. Komen; Dr. Peter Eby, Washington State Radiological Society (WSRS); Janet Campbell; Bobbi-Jo Thomas; Kate White Tudor, Rayus Radiology.

CON: Jennifer Ziegler, Association of Washington Health Care Plans.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: No one.