
HOUSE BILL 1430

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Simmons, Leavitt, Macri, Thai, Tharinger, Parshley, Reeves, Alvarado, Pollet, Rule, Stonier, Berg, Street, Goodman, Ormsby, Mena, Farivar, Entenman, Fosse, Callan, Davis, Ramel, Taylor, Lekanoff, Berry, Reed, Shavers, Cortes, Fey, Salahuddin, and Hill

Read first time 01/20/25. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring health carriers to reimburse
2 advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants at the
3 same rate as physicians for the same services; adding a new section
4 to chapter 48.43 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Health care workforce shortages are one of
7 the most significant, and potentially long-lasting, impacts of the
8 COVID-19 pandemic. Given the gravity of these shortages and the
9 threat they present to health care access, the legislature recognizes
10 the importance of supporting health care practitioners throughout the
11 state. This act intends to help health systems, clinics, and private
12 practices maintain a sufficient number of health care providers,
13 especially in underserved and rural communities, by requiring health
14 carriers to reimburse advanced practice registered nurses, physician
15 assistants, and physicians the same rate for providing the same
16 health care services.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 48.43
18 RCW to read as follows:

19 (1) For health plans other than health plans offered to public
20 employees and dependents under chapter 41.05 RCW issued or renewed on

1 or after January 1, 2026, a health carrier may not reimburse a
2 contracted health care practitioner who is an advanced practice
3 registered nurse licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW or physician
4 assistant licensed under chapter 18.71A RCW in an amount less than
5 the allowed amount that the health carrier would reimburse for the
6 same service if provided by a contracted provider who is a physician
7 licensed under chapter 18.57 or 18.71 RCW in the same service area as
8 defined in WAC 284-43-0160.

9 (2) A health carrier may not reduce the reimbursement amount paid
10 to physicians licensed under chapter 18.57 or 18.71 RCW to comply
11 with this section.

12 (3) The office of the insurance commissioner shall collect data
13 from health carriers on the implementation of this section beginning
14 January 1, 2026, and report back to the legislature, in the manner
15 provided in RCW 43.01.036, no later than July 1, 2027:

16 (a) The number of health carriers who changed reimbursement rates
17 in response to this section;

18 (b) The number of advanced practice registered nurses and
19 physician assistants whose reimbursement rates were increased as a
20 result of this section;

21 (c) The number of physicians whose reimbursement rates were
22 decreased as a result of this section; and

23 (d) The costs incurred by each health carrier to implement this
24 section.

25 (4) This section does not apply to advanced practice registered
26 nurses or physician assistants who are employees of a health
27 maintenance organization regulated under chapter 48.46 RCW.

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