

2 **SSB 5854** - CONF REPT
3 By Conference Committee

4 ADOPTED 4/23/95

5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 48.42 RCW
8 to read as follows:

9 (1) For purposes of this section, health care carriers includes
10 disability insurers regulated under chapter 48.20 or 48.21 RCW, health
11 care services contractors regulated under chapter 48.44 RCW, health
12 maintenance organizations regulated under chapter 48.46 RCW, plans
13 operating under the health care authority under chapter 41.05 RCW, the
14 state health insurance pool operating under chapter 48.41 RCW, and
15 insuring entities regulated under chapter 48.43 RCW.

16 (2) For purposes of this section and consistent with their lawful
17 scopes of practice, types of health care practitioners that provide
18 women's health care services shall include, but need not be limited by
19 a health care carrier to, the following: Any generally recognized
20 medical specialty of practitioners licensed under chapter 18.57 or
21 18.71 RCW who provides women's health care services; practitioners
22 licensed under chapters 18.57A and 18.71A RCW when providing women's
23 health care services; and advanced registered nurse practitioner
24 specialists in women's health and midwifery under chapter 18.79 RCW.

25 (3) For purposes of this section, women's health care services
26 shall include, but need not be limited by a health care carrier to, the
27 following: Maternity care; reproductive health services; gynecological
28 care; general examination; and preventive care as medically appropriate
29 and medically appropriate follow-up visits for the services listed in
30 this subsection.

31 (4) Health care carriers shall ensure that enrolled female patients
32 have direct access to timely and appropriate covered women's health
33 care services from the type of health care practitioner of their choice
34 in accordance with subsection (5) of this section.

35 (5)(a) Health care carrier policies, plans, and programs written,
36 amended, or renewed after the effective date of this act shall provide

1 women patients with direct access to the type of health care
2 practitioner of their choice for appropriate covered women's health
3 care services without the necessity of prior referral from another type
4 of health care practitioner.

5 (b) Health care carriers may comply with this section by including
6 all the types of health care practitioners listed in this section for
7 women's health care services for women patients.

8 (c) Nothing in this section shall prevent health care carriers from
9 restricting women patients to seeing only health care practitioners who
10 have signed participating provider agreements with the health care
11 carrier."

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15 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "care;" strike the remainder
16 of the title and insert "and adding a new section to chapter 48.42
17 RCW."

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