

SHB 2341 - H AMD 1115

By Representative Jinkins

ADOPTED 02/13/2012

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 70.41 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) As of January 1, 2013, each hospital that is recognized by the
6 internal revenue service as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit entity must make its
7 federally required community health needs assessment widely available
8 to the public within fifteen days of submission to the internal revenue
9 service. Following completion of the initial community health needs
10 assessment, each hospital in accordance with the internal revenue
11 service, shall complete and make widely available to the public an
12 assessment once every three years.

13 (2) Unless contained in the community health needs assessment under
14 subsection (1) of this section, a hospital subject to the requirements
15 under subsection (1) of this section shall make public a description of
16 the community served by the hospital, including both a geographic
17 description and a description of the general population served by the
18 hospital; and demographic information such as leading causes of death,
19 levels of chronic illness, and descriptions of the medically
20 underserved, low-income, and minority, or chronically ill populations
21 in the community.

22 (3)(a) Each hospital subject to the requirements of subsection (1)
23 of this section shall make widely available to the public a community
24 benefit implementation strategy within one year of completing its
25 community health needs assessment. In developing the implementation
26 strategy, hospitals shall consult with community-based organizations
27 and stakeholders, and local public health jurisdictions, as well as any
28 additional consultations the hospital decides to undertake. Unless
29 contained in the implementation strategy under this subsection (3)(a),
30 the hospital must provide a brief explanation for not accepting

1 recommendations for community benefit proposals identified in the
2 assessment through the stakeholder consultation process, such as
3 excessive expense to implement or infeasibility of implementation of
4 the proposal.

5 (b) Implementation strategies must be evidence-based, when
6 available; or development and implementation of innovative programs and
7 practices should be supported by evaluation measures.

8 (4) For the purposes of this section, the term "widely available to
9 the public" has the same meaning as in the internal revenue service
10 guidelines."

11 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Removes public hospital district hospitals from the bill so that it only applies to hospitals that are recognized as nonprofit entities by the internal revenue service.

Requires nonprofit hospitals to make widely available to the public the community health needs assessments completed for the federal government. Unless contained in the community health needs assessment, requires nonprofit hospitals to complete a detailed description of the community served by the hospital, including specific demographic information, and make it available to the public. Eliminates all other requirements for a community health needs assessment.

Requires nonprofit hospitals to complete and make widely available to the public a community benefit implementation strategy which must be developed in consultation with community-based organizations and stakeholders, and local public health jurisdictions. Requires hospitals to provide a brief explanation for not accepting recommendations for community benefit proposals identified by the stakeholder process. Eliminates all other requirements for a community benefits implementation strategy.

Eliminates the requirement that community health needs assessments and community benefit implementation strategies be reported to the Department of Health and that DOH post them on its web site.

Eliminates legislative findings regarding community benefits activities of hospitals. Eliminates the definition of "community benefits," "community benefit implementation strategy," "community building activities," and "community health needs assessment."

Eliminates DOH's rule-making duties to develop standards and report on the community health needs assessments and community benefits implementation strategies. Eliminates the use of the Hospital Data Collection Account.

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