
SENATE BILL 6129

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Senators Randall, Dhingra, Hunt, Keiser, Kuderer, Salomon, Stanford, Van De Wege, Frockt, and Wilson, C.

Prefiled 01/02/20. Read first time 01/13/20. Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to student health plan coverage for pregnancy
2 services; and amending RCW 48.43.073.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 48.43.073 and 2018 c 119 s 3 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, if a
7 health plan issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2019, or student
8 health plan, including student health plans deemed by the insurance
9 commissioner to have a short-term limited purpose or duration or to
10 be guaranteed renewable while the covered person is enrolled as a
11 regular full-time undergraduate or graduate student at an accredited
12 higher education institution, issued or renewed on or after January
13 1, 2021, provides coverage for maternity care or services, the health
14 plan or student health plan must also provide a covered person with
15 substantially equivalent coverage to permit the abortion of a
16 pregnancy.

17 (2)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, a health
18 plan or student health plan subject to subsection (1) of this section
19 may not limit in any way a person's access to services related to the
20 abortion of a pregnancy.

1 (b) (i) Coverage for the abortion of a pregnancy may be subject to
2 terms and conditions generally applicable to the health plan's or
3 student health plan's coverage of maternity care or services,
4 including applicable cost sharing.

5 (ii) A health plan or student health plan is not required to
6 cover abortions that would be unlawful under RCW 9.02.120.

7 (3) Nothing in this section may be interpreted to limit in any
8 way an individual's constitutionally or statutorily protected right
9 to voluntarily terminate a pregnancy.

10 (4) This section does not, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Sec.
11 18054(a)(6), apply to a multistate plan that does not provide
12 coverage for the abortion of a pregnancy.

13 (5) If the application of this section to a health plan or
14 student health plan results in noncompliance with federal
15 requirements that are a prescribed condition to the allocation of
16 federal funds to the state, this section is inapplicable to the plan
17 to the minimum extent necessary for the state to be in
18 compliance. The inapplicability of this section to a specific health
19 plan or student health plan under this subsection does not affect the
20 operation of this section in other circumstances.

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