
HOUSE BILL 2043

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session

By Representatives Stonier, Wylie, Harris, Senn, Kloba, and Lovick

1 AN ACT Relating to breast cancer; and adding a new section to
2 chapter 70.01 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 70.01
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) The health care authority, in coordination with the
7 department of health, must create and implement a campaign to educate
8 breast cancer patients about the availability of insurance coverage
9 for breast reconstruction and breast prostheses.

10 (2) The health care authority and department of health may create
11 new educational materials or make available materials published by
12 for-profit or nonprofit organizations. The materials must provide, at
13 a minimum, all of the following:

14 (a) Information about the availability of breast reconstruction
15 surgery following a mastectomy including that the breast
16 reconstruction surgery may be performed at the time of a mastectomy
17 or the breast reconstruction surgery may be delayed until a time
18 after the mastectomy.

19 (b) Information about prostheses or breast forms as alternatives
20 to breast reconstruction surgery.

1 (c) Information about the requirements of the women's health and
2 cancer rights act of 1998 (P.L. 105-277) including the right to
3 breast reconstruction surgery even if the surgery is delayed.
4 (3) The educational materials developed or made available under
5 subsection (2) of this section must be distributed by the office of
6 the insurance commissioner and the health care authority to people
7 receiving their services. The department of health must also make
8 this information available to health care professionals for
9 distribution to patients who may qualify for breast reconstruction
10 surgery following a mastectomy.

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