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**SENATE BILL 6384**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2020 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Becker, Cleveland, O'Ban, and Frockt

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing a statewide tracking system for  
2 difficult to discharge patients; adding a new section to chapter  
3 43.371 RCW; and adding a new section to chapter 70.41 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.371  
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) The authority shall establish a claims code for tracking  
8 administrative days in the state. The claims code must be used for  
9 tracking purposes only and may not be used for reimbursement.

10 (2) Beginning January 1, 2021, the state medicaid program, public  
11 employees' benefits board programs, school employees' benefits board  
12 programs, and all health carriers operating in this state must use  
13 the administrative day claims code established by this section to  
14 track administrative days of enrollees receiving hospital services in  
15 the state and must submit the administrative day claims required by  
16 section 2 of this act pursuant to RCW 43.371.030.

17 (3) Beginning December 1, 2021, the lead organization shall  
18 submit an annual report to the relevant committees of the legislature  
19 regarding administrative day claims. The annual report must include:

20 (a) The number of administrative days by hospital;

21 (b) The number of administrative days by health carrier;

- 1 (c) The number of patients with administrative days by hospital;  
2 (d) The number of patients with administrative days by health  
3 carrier; and  
4 (e) The average number of administrative days per patient.  
5 (4) For purposes of this section "administrative day" means any  
6 day of an individual's hospital stay in which an acute inpatient or  
7 observation level of care is not medically necessary, and a lower  
8 level of care is appropriate.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 70.41  
10 RCW to read as follows:

11 (1) For each administrative day of a patient's stay in a  
12 hospital, the hospital must submit the claims code established in  
13 section 1 of this act to the patient's primary insurance.

14 (2) For purposes of this section:

15 (a) "Administrative day" has the same meaning as in section 1 of  
16 this act.

17 (b) "Patient" means a person admitted to the hospital who is  
18 enrolled with health coverage through the state medicaid program,  
19 public employees' benefits board programs, school employees' benefits  
20 board programs, or a health carrier operating in this state.

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