enhance the likelihood that high quality rural health care delivery occurs in a cost-effective and efficient manner.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 70.14 RCW to read as follows:

The department of social and health services shall compile and make available to the public information regarding medicare health care facility certification options available to hospitals licensed under this title that desire to convert to nonhospital health care facilities. The information provided shall include standards and requirements for certification and procedures for acquiring certification.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. The department of community development, department of trade and economic development, department of employment security, and department of social and health services are expected to use their present resources and staffing to carry out the requirements of this act.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. Sections 1 and 2 of this act shall expire on December 31, 1988.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. The sum of ten thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 1989, from the general fund to the Washington rural health care commission for the purposes identified in this act. The senate facilities and operations committee may authorize expenditures for necessary expenses directly related to commission activities.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. Sections 1 and 2 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the Senate March 10, 1988.
Passed the House March 10, 1988.
Approved by the Governor March 23, 1988.
Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 23, 1988.

CHAPTER 208
[Substitute Senate Bill No. 6437]
NURSING HOMES—LEASES—RETURN ON INVESTMENT

AN ACT Relating to the return on investment allowance for nursing homes; and amending RCW 74.46.360.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Sec. 1. Section 36, chapter 177, Laws of 1980 as amended by section 1, chapter 175, Laws of 1986 and RCW 74.46.360 are each amended to read as follows:

[976]
(1) The depreciation base shall be the historical cost of the contractor or lessor, when the assets are leased by the contractor, in acquiring the asset in an arm's-length transaction and preparing it for use, less goodwill, and less accumulated depreciation which has been incurred during periods that the assets have been used in or as a facility by any contractor, such accumulated depreciation to be measured in accordance with subsections (2), (3), and (4) of this section and RCW 74.46.350 and 74.46.370. If the department challenges the historical cost of an asset, or if the contractor cannot or will not provide the historical costs, the department will have the department of general administration, through an appraisal procedure, determine the fair market value of the assets at the time of purchase. The depreciation base of the assets will not exceed such fair market value.

(2) The historical cost of donated assets, or of assets received through testate or intestate distribution, shall be the lesser of:
   (a) Fair market value at the date of donation or death; or
   (b) The historical cost base of the owner last contracting with the department, if any.

(3) Estimated salvage value of acquired, donated, or inherited assets shall be deducted from historical cost where the straight-line or sum-of-the-years' digits method of depreciation is used.

(4) (a) Where depreciable assets are acquired that were used in the medical care program subsequent to January 1, 1980, the depreciation base of the assets will not exceed the net book value which did exist or would have existed had the assets continued in use under the previous contract with the department; except that depreciation shall not be assumed to accumulate during periods when the assets were not in use in or as a facility.

   (b) The provisions of (a) of this subsection shall not apply to the most recent arm's-length acquisition if it occurs at least ten years after the ownership of the assets has been previously transferred in an arm's-length transaction nor to the first arm's-length acquisition that occurs after January 1, 1980, for facilities participating in the medical care program prior to January 1, 1980. The new depreciation base for such acquisitions shall not exceed the fair market value of the assets as determined by the department of general administration through an appraisal procedure. A determination by the department of general administration of fair market value shall be final unless the procedure used to make such determination is shown to be arbitrary and capricious. This subsection is inoperative for any transfer of ownership of any asset occurring on or after July 18, 1984, leaving (a) of this subsection to apply alone to such transfers: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That this subsection shall apply to transfers of ownership of assets occurring prior to January 1, 1985, if the costs of such assets have never been reimbursed under medicaid cost reimbursement on an owner-operated basis or as a related-party lease.
(c) In the case of assets leased by the same contractor since January 1, 1980, in an arm’s-length lease, and purchased by the lessee/contractor, the lessee/contractor shall have the option:

(i) To have the provisions of subsection (b) of this section apply to the purchase; or

(ii) To have the reimbursement for property and return on investment continue to be calculated pursuant to the provisions contained in RCW 74.46.530(e) and (f) based upon the provisions of the lease in existence on the date of the purchase, but only if the purchase date meets one of the following criteria:

(A) The purchase date is after the lessor has declared bankruptcy or has defaulted in any loan or mortgage held against the leased property;

(B) The purchase date is within one year of the lease expiration or renewal date contained in the lease;

(C) The purchase date is after a rate setting for the facility in which the reimbursement rate set pursuant to this chapter no longer is equal to or greater than the actual cost of the lease; or

(D) The purchase date is within one year of any purchase option in existence on January 1, 1988.

(d) Where depreciable assets are acquired from a related organization, the contractor's depreciation base shall not exceed the base the related organization had or would have had under a contract with the department.

((d)) (e) Where the depreciable asset is a donation or distribution between related organizations, the base shall be the lesser of (i) fair market value, less salvage value, or (ii) the depreciation base the related organization had or would have had for the asset under a contract with the department.

Passed the Senate March 7, 1988.
Approved by the Governor March 23, 1988.
Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 23, 1988.