

vehicle, that are designed to facilitate the use or operation of the motor vehicle by a handicapped person.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. This act is 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 House March 24, 1983.

Passed the Senate April 18, 1983.

Approved by the Governor May 16, 1983.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 16, 1983.

CHAPTER 201

[Engrossed House Bill No. 643]

CREDITOR CLAIMS AGAINST AN ESTATE—STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS

AN ACT Relating to service and filing liability and casualty insurance claims; amending section 3, chapter 106, Laws of 1967 ex. sess. and RCW 11.40.011; and creating a new section.

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

Sec. 1. Section 3, chapter 106, Laws of 1967 ex. sess. and RCW 11.40.011 are each amended to read as follows:

The four-month time limitation for serving and filing of claims shall not accrue to the benefit of any liability or casualty insurer as to claims against the deceased and/or the marital community of which the deceased was a member and such claims, subject to applicable statutes of limitation, may at any time (~~within eighteen months after the date of the first publication of notice to creditors~~) be:

(1) Served on the personal representative, or the attorney for the estate; or

(2) If the personal representative shall have been discharged, then the claimant as a creditor may cause a new personal representative to be appointed and the estate to be reopened in which case service may be had upon the new personal representative or his attorney of record.

Claims may be served and filed as herein provided, notwithstanding the conclusion of any probate proceedings: PROVIDED, That the amount of recovery under such claims shall not exceed the amount of applicable insurance coverages and proceeds: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That such claims so served and filed shall not constitute a cloud or lien upon the title to the assets of the estate under probate nor delay or prevent the conclusion

of probate proceedings or the transfer or distribution of assets of the estate subject to such probate. Nothing in this section serves to extend the applicable statute of limitations regardless of the appointment or failure to have appointed a personal representative for an estate.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. The provisions of this 1983 amendatory act apply to causes of actions arising on or after the effective date of this act.

Passed the House April 22, 1983.

Passed the Senate April 18, 1983.

Approved by the Governor May 16, 1983.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 16, 1983.

CHAPTER 202

[Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 667]

HEALTH CARE SERVICE CONTRACTORS AND AGENTS—HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS—REGULATION

AN ACT Relating to insurance; amending section 20, chapter 266, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. and RCW 48.21.200; amending section 7, chapter 115, Laws of 1969 and RCW 48.44.011; amending section 6, chapter 115, Laws of 1969 and RCW 48.44.015; amending section 5, chapter 115, Laws of 1969 and RCW 48.44.095; amending section 11, chapter 115, Laws of 1969 and RCW 48.44.166; amending section 3, chapter 139, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 48.44.212; amending section 9, chapter 290, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. and RCW 48.46.080; amending section 12, chapter 290, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. and RCW 48.46.110; adding a new section to chapter 48.17 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.44 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 48.46 RCW; repealing section 8, chapter 115, Laws of 1969 and RCW 48.44.045; repealing section 9, chapter 115, Laws of 1969, section 3, chapter 65, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 48.44.162; and prescribing penalties.

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

Sec. 1. Section 7, chapter 115, Laws of 1969 and RCW 48.44.011 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Agent, as used in this chapter, means any person appointed or authorized by a health care service contractor to solicit applications for health care service contracts on its behalf.

(2) No person shall act as or hold himself out to be an agent of a health care service contractor unless licensed as a disability insurance agent by this state and appointed by the health care service contractor on whose behalf solicitations are to be made.

(3) Applications, appointments, and qualifications for licenses, the renewal thereof, the fees and issuance of a license, and the renewal thereof shall be in accordance with the provisions of chapter 48.17 RCW that are applicable to a disability insurance agent.

(4) A person holding a valid license in this state as a health care service contractor agent on the effective date of this 1983 act is not required to requalify by an examination for the renewal of the license.