

Note: Governor's explanation of partial veto is as follows:

"I am returning herewith without my approval as to one section Substitute Senate Bill No. 3233 entitled:

"AN ACT Relating to insurance or protection programs for university regents, employees, agents, and students, and their dependents."

This bill authorizes the University of Washington to arrange for a program of self insurance in the area of liability claims.

Section 4 of the bill declares an emergency and provides for the act to take effect immediately. I have on several occasions in past sessions vetoed emergency clauses from bills that did not measure up to the standard and urgency contained in Article II, section 1(b) of our Constitution. I am increasingly apprehensive that repeated use on unwarranted occasions will render emergency clauses wholly without meaning in the eyes of both the people and the courts.

I am advised that the University of Washington is hopeful that the bill will go into effect prior to July 1, 1976, so that a program of self-insurance can be prepared for the new fiscal year. I am reasonably confident that the Legislature will adjourn sine die sometime before April 1, so that the bill would go into effect by July 1, 1976 in any event.

With the exception of section 4 which I have vetoed, the remainder of Substitute Senate Bill No. 3233 is approved."

CHAPTER 13

[Senate Bill No. 3033]

HOSPITALS—LIABILITY SELF-INSURANCE

AN ACT Relating to hospitals; and amending section .01.05, chapter 79, Laws of 1947 and RCW 48.01.050.

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

Section 1. Section .01.05, chapter 79, Laws of 1947 and RCW 48.01.050 are each amended to read as follows:

"Insurer" as used in this code includes every person engaged in the business of making contracts of insurance, other than a fraternal benefit society. A reciprocal or interinsurance exchange is an "insurer" as used in this code. Two or more hospitals, as defined in RCW 70.39.020(3), which join and organize as a mutual corporation pursuant to chapter 24.06 RCW for the purpose of insuring or self-insuring against liability claims, including medical liability, through a contributing trust fund shall not be deemed an "insurer" under this code.

Passed the Senate January 30, 1976.

Passed the House February 10, 1976.

Approved by the Governor February 17, 1976.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State February 17, 1976.