



DATE: 12/10/2025
TO: Rules Coordinator, Office of the Insurance Commissioner
FROM: Zach Correia, Government Relations Analyst
SUBJECT: Proposed Rulemaking to Implement SB 5579 (2025)

I am writing on behalf of MultiCare Health System regarding the Office of the Insurance Commissioner's (OIC) prepublication draft to implement SB 5579 (2025) that regulates public statements by a health insurer and health care providers regarding potential contract terminations.

We have concerns about the currently proposed rule definitions of "notice" and "public statement" in WAC 284-170-131. We often communicate with patients for the purposes of care continuation and planning when there is a pending contract termination. Under the proposed definition, those follow-up conversations would be challenging as the date of the contract termination could not be referenced in those patient communication.

We request that the definition of "notice" and "public statement" be amended to exclude communications to patients when care planning is discussed. Referencing a contract termination date is necessary when developing care plans so patients are informed for when health services will change. This amendment will allow us and the insurance carriers we contract with to continue to engage in patient care planning when there is an impending termination while still preserving the intent of the bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this preproposal draft. If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Zach Correia, government relations analyst at Zachary.correia@multicare.org

Sincerely,
Zach Correia
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