RCW 74.09.171  Contracts for medicaid services—Border communities.  (1) The legislature finds that the authority and the department purchase or contract for the delivery of medicaid programs, including medical services with the managed care plans under this chapter, mental health services with regional support networks or other contractors under chapter 71.24 RCW, chemical dependency services under chapters 74.50 and 70.96A RCW, and long-term care services under chapter 74.39A RCW.

(2) The authority and department must collaborate and seek opportunities to expand access to care for enrollees in the medicaid programs identified in subsection (1) of this section living in border communities that may require contractual agreements with providers across the state border when care is appropriate, available, and cost-effective.

(3) All authority and department contracts for medicaid services issued or renewed after July 1, 2014, must include provisions that allow for care to be accessed cross-border ensuring timely access to necessary care, including inpatient and outpatient services. The contracts must include reciprocal arrangements that allow Washington, Oregon, and Idaho border residents to access care when care is appropriate, available, and cost-effective.

(4) The agencies must jointly report to the health care committees and fiscal committees of the legislature by November 1, 2014, with an update on the contractual opportunities and the anticipated impacts on patient access to timely care, the impact on the availability of inpatient and outpatient services, and the fiscal implications for the medicaid programs. [2014 c 39 § 1.]

Reviser's note: *(1) Chapter 74.50 RCW was repealed by 2019 c 325 § 6004.*

***(2) Chapter 70.96A RCW was repealed and/or recodified in its entirety pursuant to 2016 sp.s. c 29 §§ 301, 601, and 701.*