

**One Hundred Fifth Legislature - First Session - 2017**

**Introducer's Statement of Intent**

**LB609**

**Chairperson: Senator Joni Albrecht**

**Committee: Business and Labor**

**Date of Hearing: March 06, 2017**

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 609 would establish a workers' compensation "Medicare-Plus" medical fee schedule for outpatient hospital and ambulatory surgical center services, similar to the medical fee schedule applicable to inpatient hospital and inpatient hospital trauma services.

The existing medical fee schedule for outpatient hospital and ambulatory surgical center services is based on "billed charges, less a percentage discount," with the percentage discount determined either by the location and/or size of the hospital or ambulatory surgical center. Under the "Medicare-Plus" medical fee schedule proposed under LB 609, outpatient hospital and ambulatory surgical center services would be reimbursed based upon the code or codes reported for the procedures, drugs, supplies, and services provided to an injured worker.

As introduced, the percentage markup from Medicare reimbursement levels is in a "yet to be determined" amount.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

Senator Lou Ann Linehan