

**Senate File 5 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 5

BY ZAUN

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the disclosure of the prices charged for  
2 health services rendered by health care providers and  
3 hospitals.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 135.84 Disclosure of prices charged  
2 for health services by health care providers and hospitals.

3 1. A health care provider shall disclose and make available  
4 to the public in a single document, either electronically or  
5 by posting conspicuously on the provider's internet site,  
6 if one exists, the prices charged, prior to the negotiation  
7 of any discounts and assuming no medical complications, for  
8 the twenty-five most common health services the health care  
9 provider renders.

10 a. The health care provider shall identify the health  
11 service for which prices charged are provided in both a common  
12 procedural terminology code or other coding system commonly  
13 used by the health care provider and accepted as a national  
14 standard for billing, and in a plain language description.

15 b. The health care provider shall update the price  
16 information as frequently as the health care provider deems  
17 appropriate, but at least annually.

18 2. A hospital shall disclose and make available to the  
19 public in a single document, either electronically or by  
20 posting conspicuously on the hospital's internet site, if  
21 one exists, the prices charged, prior to the negotiation of  
22 any discounts and assuming no medical complications, for  
23 the seventy-five most common inpatient health services and  
24 the seventy-five most common outpatient health services, as  
25 grouped by a Medicare diagnosis-related group, rendered by  
26 the hospital. The price information shall be updated on a  
27 quarterly basis.

28 3. Any price information disclosed under this section shall  
29 include a disclaimer that the price information provided is  
30 an estimate, does not constitute a legally binding charge for  
31 a health service provided to a specific consumer, and that  
32 the actual charge for a health service is dependent on the  
33 circumstances at the time the health service is rendered.

34 4. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A  
35 to ensure that requirements under this section are consistent

1 with and do not duplicate federal requirements related to the  
2 disclosure of prices charged by health care providers and  
3 hospitals including but not limited to the requirements for  
4 hospitals pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §300gg-18(e).

5

EXPLANATION

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The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
7 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

7

8 This bill relates to the disclosure of prices charged by  
9 health care providers and hospitals for common health services.

10 The bill requires a health care provider to disclose and  
11 make available to the public in a single document, either  
12 electronically or by posting conspicuously on the provider's  
13 internet site, the prices charged, prior to the negotiation of  
14 any discounts and assuming no medical complications, for the 25  
15 most common health services the health care provider renders.  
16 The health services are to be identified by a common nationally  
17 recognized coding system and by a plain language description,  
18 and the health care provider is required to update the price  
19 information at least annually.

20 The bill requires hospitals to disclose and make available  
21 to the public in a single document, either electronically or  
22 by posting conspicuously on the hospital's internet site, the  
23 prices charged, prior to the negotiation of any discounts and  
24 assuming no medical complications, for the 75 most common  
25 inpatient and the 75 most common outpatient health services, as  
26 grouped by a Medicare diagnosis-related group, rendered by the  
27 hospital. The price information is required to be updated on  
28 a quarterly basis.

29 The bill provides that the price information disclosed shall  
30 include a disclaimer that the price information provided is  
31 an estimate, does not constitute a legally binding charge for  
32 a health service provided to a specific consumer, and that  
33 the actual charge for a health service is dependent on the  
34 circumstances at the time the service is rendered.

35 The bill directs the department of public health to adopt

1 administrative rules to ensure that requirements under the bill  
2 are consistent with and do not duplicate federal requirements  
3 related to the disclosure of prices charged by health care  
4 providers and hospitals, specifically including those required  
5 under the federal Affordable Care Act regarding the publicizing  
6 of standard hospital charges.