

1-1 By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 790
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 24, 2021; March 11, 2021,
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Business & Commerce;
 1-4 March 31, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9,
 1-5 Nays 0; March 31, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to county authority to balance bill for county air
 1-20 ambulance services.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Section 113.902(a), Local Government Code, is
 1-23 amended to read as follows:

1-24 (a) Except as provided by Section 113.9025, the [The] county
 1-25 treasurer shall direct prosecution for the recovery of any debt
 1-26 owed to the county, as provided by law, and shall supervise the
 1-27 collection of the debt.

1-28 SECTION 2. Subchapter Z, Chapter 113, Local Government
 1-29 Code, is amended by adding Section 113.9025 to read as follows:

1-30 Sec. 113.9025. BALANCE BILLING FOR COUNTY AIR AMBULANCE
 1-31 SERVICES. (a) "Balance billing" means the practice of charging an
 1-32 enrollee in a health benefit plan to recover from the enrollee the
 1-33 balance of a health care provider's fee for a service received by
 1-34 the enrollee from the health care provider that is not fully
 1-35 reimbursed by the enrollee's health benefit plan.

1-36 (b) A county may elect to consider a health benefit plan
 1-37 payment towards a claim for air ambulance services provided by the
 1-38 county as payment in full for those services regardless of the
 1-39 amount the county charged for those services.

1-40 (c) A county may not practice balance billing for a claim
 1-41 for which the county makes an election under Subsection (b).

1-42 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

1-43 * * * * *