

By: Schwertner

S.B. No. 1845

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to itemized billing for health care services and supplies provided by health care providers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Title 2, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subtitle J to read as follows:

SUBTITLE J. PAYMENT FOR HEALTH CARE SERVICES AND SUPPLIES

CHAPTER 185. HEALTH CARE BILLING

Sec. 185.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Debt collection" has the meaning assigned by Section 392.001, Finance Code.

(2) "Health care provider" means a hospital or freestanding emergency medical care facility licensed under Chapter 254, Health and Safety Code.

(3) "Health care service" means a service provided to an individual by a health care provider to diagnose, prevent, treat, alleviate, cure, or heal a human health condition, illness, injury, or disease.

Sec. 185.002. ITEMIZED BILL REQUIRED. Before a health care provider pursues any debt collection against a patient for whom the provider provided a health care service or related supply, the provider shall issue to the patient a written itemized bill of charges for all health care services and supplies provided to the patient during the visit to the provider. The bill must include the

1 amount charged for each health care service and supply provided to  
2 the patient by that provider and any other provider during that  
3 visit.

4 Sec. 185.003. DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY LICENSING AUTHORITY.

5 The appropriate licensing authority may take disciplinary action  
6 against a health care provider that violates this chapter as if the  
7 provider violated an applicable licensing law.

8 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.