

1-1 By: Hughes, Bettencourt, West S.B. No. 490
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed January 18, 2023; February 17, 2023,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Health & Human
1-4 Services; April 24, 2023, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; April 24, 2023, 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 itemized billing for health care services and supplies
1-20 provided by health care providers.

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

1-22 SECTION 1. Title 2, Health and Safety Code, is amended by
1-23 adding Subtitle J to read as follows:

1-24 SUBTITLE J. PAYMENT FOR HEALTH CARE SERVICES AND SUPPLIES

1-25 CHAPTER 185. HEALTH CARE BILLING

1-26 Sec. 185.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

1-27 (1) "Debt collection" has the meaning assigned by
1-28 Section 392.001, Finance Code.

1-29 (2) "Health care provider" means an individual or
1-30 facility licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized to provide
1-31 health care services or supplies in this state in the ordinary
1-32 course of business or professional practice, including a physician
1-33 or a hospital.

1-34 (3) "Health care service" means a service a health
1-35 care provider provides to an individual to diagnose, prevent,
1-36 treat, alleviate, cure, or heal a human health condition, illness,
1-37 injury, or disease.

1-38 Sec. 185.002. ITEMIZED BILL REQUIRED. (a) A health care
1-39 provider that requests payment from a patient for a health care
1-40 service or related supply provided to the patient shall submit with
1-41 the request a written, itemized bill of charges for all health care
1-42 services and supplies provided to the patient during the patient's
1-43 visit to the provider.

1-44 (b) The itemized bill must include:

1-45 (1) the amount the health care provider agrees to
1-46 accept as full payment for each health care service and supply that
1-47 provider provided to the patient;

1-48 (2) a plain language description of each distinct
1-49 health care service or supply; and

1-50 (3) if reimbursement is sought from a third party, any
1-51 billing code submitted to the third party and the amounts billed to
1-52 and paid by that third party.

1-53 (c) A health care provider may issue the itemized bill
1-54 electronically, including through a patient portal on the
1-55 provider's Internet website.

1-56 (d) A patient is entitled to obtain from the health care
1-57 provider an itemized bill on request at any time after the itemized
1-58 bill is initially issued under Subsection (a).

1-59 (e) A health care provider may not pursue debt collection
1-60 against a patient for a provided health care service or supply
1-61 unless the provider has complied with this section.

2-1 Sec. 185.003. DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY LICENSING AUTHORITY.
2-2 The appropriate licensing authority may take disciplinary action
2-3 against a health care provider that violates this chapter as if the
2-4 provider violated an applicable licensing law.

2-5 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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