

By: Truitt

H.B. No. 2576

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the amount charged by certain health care facilities
3 for health care services and supplies provided to consumers
4 receiving outpatient care.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 324, Health and Safety
7 Code, is amended by adding Section 324.104 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 324.104. PROHIBITED CHARGES. (a) A facility that
9 provides inpatient and outpatient health care may not charge for a
10 health care service or supply provided to a consumer receiving
11 outpatient care at the facility an amount that exceeds the amount
12 the consumer's third-party payor pays, computed without
13 consideration of any copayment, deductible, or coinsurance for
14 which the consumer is responsible, for the same health care service
15 or supply provided by a facility to a consumer in an outpatient care
16 setting.

17 (b) This section does not apply to a service or supply
18 provided in a hospital emergency room.

19 SECTION 2. Section 324.104, Health and Safety Code, as
20 added by this Act, applies only to the charge for a health care
21 service or supply provided on or after the effective date of this
22 Act.

23 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.