

By: Collier

H.B. No. 2080

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to disclosures regarding the provision of laboratory  
3 services in certain health care facilities.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 324.101(a), Health and Safety Code, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (a) Each facility shall develop, implement, and enforce  
8 written policies for the billing of facility health care services  
9 and supplies. The policies must address:

10 (1) any discounting of facility charges to an  
11 uninsured consumer, subject to Chapter 552, Insurance Code;

12 (2) any discounting of facility charges provided to a  
13 financially or medically indigent consumer who qualifies for  
14 indigent services based on a sliding fee scale or a written charity  
15 care policy established by the facility and the documented income  
16 and other resources of the consumer;

17 (3) the providing of an itemized statement required by  
18 Subsection (e);

19 (4) whether interest will be applied to any billed  
20 service not covered by a third-party payor and the rate of any  
21 interest charged;

22 (5) the procedure for handling complaints;

23 (6) the providing of a conspicuous written disclosure  
24 to a consumer at the time the consumer is first admitted to the

1 facility or first receives services at the facility that:

2 (A) provides confirmation whether the facility  
3 is a participating provider under the consumer's third-party payor  
4 coverage on the date services are to be rendered based on the  
5 information received from the consumer at the time the confirmation  
6 is provided;

7 (B) informs the consumer [~~consumers~~] that a  
8 facility-based physician who may provide services to the consumer  
9 while the consumer is in the facility may not be a participating  
10 provider with the same third-party payors as the facility;

11 (C) informs the consumer [~~consumers~~] that the  
12 consumer may receive a bill for medical services from a  
13 facility-based physician for the amount unpaid by the consumer's  
14 health benefit plan;

15 (D) informs the consumer [~~consumers~~] that the  
16 consumer may request a listing of facility-based physicians who  
17 have been granted medical staff privileges to provide medical  
18 services at the facility; [~~and~~]

19 (E) informs the consumer [~~consumers~~] that the  
20 consumer may request information from a facility-based physician on  
21 whether the physician has a contract with the consumer's health  
22 benefit plan and under what circumstances the consumer may be  
23 responsible for payment of any amounts not paid by the consumer's  
24 health benefit plan;

25 (F) informs the consumer that laboratory  
26 services related to the consumer's facility admission, stay, or  
27 services may be provided by a laboratory that may not be a

1 participating provider with the same third-party payors as the  
2 facility; and

3 (G) informs the consumer that the consumer may  
4 request from the facility a list of the names and contact  
5 information of the laboratories that typically provide laboratory  
6 services for the facility;

7 (7) the requirement that a facility provide a list, on  
8 request, to a consumer to be admitted to, or who is expected to  
9 receive services from, the facility, that contains the name and  
10 contact information for each facility-based physician or  
11 facility-based physician group that has been granted medical staff  
12 privileges to provide medical services at the facility; and

13 (8) if the facility operates a website that includes a  
14 listing of physicians who have been granted medical staff  
15 privileges to provide medical services at the facility, the posting  
16 on the facility's website of a list that contains the name and  
17 contact information for each facility-based physician or  
18 facility-based physician group that has been granted medical staff  
19 privileges to provide medical services at the facility and the  
20 updating of the list in any calendar quarter in which there are any  
21 changes to the list.

22 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to  
23 a disclosure provided to a consumer by a health care facility on or  
24 after the effective date of this Act.

25 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.