

By: Schwertner

S.B. No. 1548

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to health care data collection requirements and a  
3 feasibility study on the use of the data to create a database of  
4 amounts billed for certain health care services.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 108.002(10), Health and Safety Code, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (10) "Health care facility" means:

9 (A) a hospital;

10 (B) an ambulatory surgical center licensed under  
11 Chapter 243;

12 (C) a chemical dependency treatment facility  
13 licensed under Chapter 464;

14 (D) a renal dialysis facility;

15 (E) a birthing center;

16 (F) a rural health clinic;

17 (G) a federally qualified health center as  
18 defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 1396d(1)(2)(B); ~~or~~

19 (H) a free-standing imaging center; or

20 (I) a freestanding emergency medical care  
21 facility, as defined by Section 254.001, including a freestanding  
22 emergency medical care facility that is exempt from the licensing  
23 requirements of Chapter 254 under Section 254.052(8).

24 SECTION 2. (a) In this section, "department" means the

1 Department of State Health Services.

2 (b) The department shall conduct a study on the feasibility  
3 of using the information provided to the department under the  
4 statewide health care data collection system developed under  
5 Section 108.006, Health and Safety Code, for creating a database  
6 accessible through the Texas Health Care Information Collection  
7 website. The database must:

8 (1) be searchable;

9 (2) include the average and percentile billed charges  
10 for health care procedures performed at inpatient care facilities,  
11 outpatient care facilities, and hospital outpatient departments;  
12 and

13 (3) categorize the information described by  
14 Subdivision (2) of this subsection according to the American  
15 Medical Association's Current Procedural Terminology code for the  
16 health care procedure associated with the amount billed.

17 (c) In conducting the feasibility study under Subsection  
18 (b) of this section, the department shall evaluate the cost of  
19 making the database accessible to:

20 (1) the public at no cost;

21 (2) health care providers at a cost; and

22 (3) both the public at no cost and health care  
23 providers at a cost.

24 (d) Not later than December 1, 2020, the department shall  
25 report the results of the study required under this section to the  
26 governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of  
27 representatives, and members of the appropriate standing

1 committees of the senate and the house of representatives.

2 (e) The department may contract with a third-party entity to  
3 conduct the study required under this section.

4 (f) This section expires September 1, 2021.

5 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.