

By: Harris Davila, Frank

H.B. No. 216

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. Section 185.002, Health and Safety Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (c), and (d) and adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

(a) A health care provider that requests payment from a patient after providing a health care service or related supply to the patient shall submit with the request a written, itemized bill of the alleged amount due for ~~[cost of]~~ each service and supply provided to the patient during the patient's visit to the provider. The provider must submit the itemized bill not later than the 30th day after the provider receives a final payment on the provided service or supply from a third party.

(c) A health care provider may issue the itemized bill:

(1) electronically, including through a patient portal on the provider's Internet website, subject to Subsection (c-1);

(2) through a hard copy delivered by mail or a common carrier; or

(3) through a hard copy the patient or the patient's designee obtains at the provider's place of business.

(c-1) A health care provider that issues an itemized bill to

1 a patient electronically through a patient portal under Subsection
2 (c) shall:

3 (1) determine whether the patient has an active
4 patient profile on the portal, if feasible; and

5 (2) if the health care provider is able to determine
6 that the patient does not have an active patient portal, mail,
7 e-mail, or provide a physical copy of the itemized bill to the
8 patient, according to the patient's preference.

9 (d) A patient is entitled to obtain from the health care
10 provider an itemized bill:

11 (1) subject to Subdivision (3), on request [at any
12 time] after the itemized bill is initially issued under Subsection
13 (a);

14 (2) through the patient's chosen method of issuance in
15 accordance with Subsection (c); and

16 (3) until the date the provider is no longer required
17 to retain an itemized bill under applicable record retention laws
18 or provider policies and procedures regarding retention of patient
19 billing information.

20 SECTION 2. Section 185.003, Health and Safety Code, is
21 amended to read as follows:

22 Sec. 185.003. DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY LICENSING
23 AUTHORITY. (a) The appropriate licensing authority shall take
24 disciplinary action against a health care [the] provider that
25 violates this chapter [for the violation] as if the provider
26 violated an applicable licensing law.

27 (b) Subsection (a) does not apply to a health care provider

1 that in good faith mails a hard copy of an itemized bill to a patient
2 if:

3 (1) the mailed copy is returned as undeliverable or
4 lost; or

5 (2) the address on file for the patient was not current
6 at the time the itemized bill was mailed.

7 SECTION 3. Sections 311.002(b), (c), and (d), Health and
8 Safety Code, are repealed.

9 SECTION 4. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
10 an itemized bill issued on or after the effective date of this Act.
11 An itemized bill issued before the effective date of this Act is
12 governed by the law in effect on the date the itemized bill was
13 issued, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

14 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.