

By: Hughes

S.B. No. 669

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 185.001(2), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(2) "Health care provider" means an individual or [a] facility licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized to provide health care services or supplies in this state in the ordinary course of business, including a physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or hospital [~~, except the term does not include a federally-qualified health center, as defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 1396d(1)(2)(B)].~~

SECTION 2. Section 185.002, Health and Safety Code, is amended by amending Subsections (c) and (d) and adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

(c) Except as provided by Subsection (c-1), a [A] health care provider may issue the itemized bill:

(1) electronically, including through a patient portal on the provider's Internet website;

(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.

1 (c-1) A health care provider that issues an itemized bill to
2 a patient electronically through a patient portal under Subsection
3 (c)(1) shall:

4 (1) determine whether the patient has created a
5 patient profile on the portal; and

6 (2) if the health care provider determines that the
7 patient has not created a patient profile, mail a copy of the
8 itemized bill to the patient as described by Subsection (c)(2).

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

11 (1) on request at any time after the itemized bill is
12 initially issued under Subsection (a); and

13 (2) through the patient's chosen method of issuance in
14 accordance with Subsection (c).

15 SECTION 3. Section 185.003, Health and Safety Code, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 Sec. 185.003. DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY LICENSING
18 AUTHORITY. The appropriate licensing authority shall take
19 disciplinary action against a health care ~~[the]~~ provider that
20 violates this chapter ~~[for the violation]~~ as if the provider
21 violated an applicable licensing law.

22 SECTION 4. Notwithstanding Section 185.001, Health and
23 Safety Code, as amended by this Act, a health care provider, as
24 defined by that section, that was not subject to the requirements of
25 Chapter 185, Health and Safety Code, before the effective date of
26 this Act is not required to comply with the requirements of that
27 chapter before January 1, 2026.

1 SECTION 5. Section 185.002, Health and Safety Code, as
2 amended by this Act, applies only to an itemized bill issued on or
3 after the effective date of this Act. An itemized bill issued before
4 the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on
5 the date the itemized bill was issued, and the former law is
6 continued in effect for that purpose.

7 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.