

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 916

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to consumer protections against certain medical and health care billing by emergency medical services providers.

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

SECTION 1. Section 773.061, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) In addition to other permissible actions or penalties and regardless of whether an emergency medical services provider is directly operated by a governmental entity, the department may revoke, suspend, or refuse to renew a license or certificate of the provider if the department confirms that the provider has:

(1) intentionally submitted incorrect information required under Section 38.006, Insurance Code; or

(2) engaged in a pattern of violations of Section 1271.159, 1275.054, 1301.166, 1551.231, 1575.174, or 1579.112, Insurance Code.

SECTION 2. Section 38.006(b), Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) This section expires September 1, 2027 [~~2025~~].

SECTION 3. Sections 1271.159(c) and (g), Insurance Code, are amended to read as follows:

(c) A political subdivision may annually [~~health maintenance organization shall~~] adjust a rate submitted under Section 38.006 [~~payment required by Subsection (b)(1) each plan~~]

1 year] by not more than [~~increasing the payment by~~] the lesser of:

2 (1) the Medicare Ambulance Inflation Factor; [~~Index~~]

3 or

4 (2) 10 percent of the provider's previous calendar
5 year rates.

6 (g) This section expires September 1, 2027 [~~2025~~].

7 SECTION 4. Sections 1275.054(c) and (f), Insurance Code,
8 are amended to read as follows:

9 (c) A political subdivision may annually [~~The administrator~~
10 ~~shall~~] adjust a rate submitted under Section 38.006 [~~payment~~
11 ~~required by Subsection (b)(1) each plan year~~] by not more than
12 [~~increasing the payment by~~] the lesser of:

13 (1) the Medicare Ambulance Inflation Factor; [~~Index~~]

14 or

15 (2) 10 percent of the provider's previous calendar
16 year rates.

17 (f) This section expires September 1, 2027 [~~2025~~].

18 SECTION 5. Sections 1301.166(c) and (g), Insurance Code,
19 are amended to read as follows:

20 (c) A political subdivision may annually [~~An insurer shall~~]
21 adjust a rate submitted under Section 38.006 [~~payment required by~~
22 ~~Subsection (b)(1) each plan year~~] by not more than [~~increasing the~~
23 ~~payment by~~] the lesser of:

24 (1) the Medicare Ambulance Inflation Factor; [~~Index~~]

25 or

26 (2) 10 percent of the provider's previous calendar
27 year rates.

1 (g) This section expires September 1, 2027 [~~2025~~].

2 SECTION 6. Sections 1551.231(c) and (f), Insurance Code,
3 are amended to read as follows:

4 (c) A political subdivision may annually [~~The administrator~~
5 ~~shall~~] adjust a rate submitted under Section 38.006 [~~payment~~
6 ~~required by Subsection (b)(1) each plan year~~] by not more than
7 [~~increasing the payment by~~] the lesser of:

8 (1) the Medicare Ambulance Inflation Factor; [~~Index~~]

9 or

10 (2) 10 percent of the provider's previous calendar
11 year rates.

12 (f) This section expires September 1, 2027 [~~2025~~].

13 SECTION 7. Sections 1575.174(c) and (f), Insurance Code,
14 are amended to read as follows:

15 (c) A political subdivision may annually [~~The administrator~~
16 ~~shall~~] adjust a rate submitted under Section 38.006 [~~payment~~
17 ~~required by Subsection (b)(1) each plan year~~] by not more than
18 [~~increasing the payment by~~] the lesser of:

19 (1) the Medicare Ambulance Inflation Factor; [~~Index~~]

20 or

21 (2) 10 percent of the provider's previous calendar
22 year rates.

23 (f) This section expires September 1, 2027 [~~2025~~].

24 SECTION 8. Sections 1579.112(c) and (f), Insurance Code,
25 are amended to read as follows:

26 (c) A political subdivision may annually [~~The administrator~~
27 ~~shall~~] adjust a rate submitted under Section 38.006 [~~payment~~

1 ~~required by Subsection (b)(1) each plan year]~~ by not more than
2 ~~[increasing the payment by]~~ the lesser of:

3 (1) the Medicare Ambulance Inflation Factor; ~~[Index]~~

4 or

5 (2) 10 percent of the provider's previous calendar
6 year rates.

7 (f) This section expires September 1, 2027 ~~[2025]~~.

8 SECTION 9. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
9 emergency medical services provided on or after the effective date
10 of this Act. Emergency medical services provided before the
11 effective date of this Act are governed by the law in effect
12 immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is
13 continued in effect for that purpose.

14 SECTION 10. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.