By: Paxton S.B. No. 332

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to timely billing requirements for health care service providers.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 146.002(a), (b), (c), and (c-1), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) or (c) and subject to Subsection (c-1), a health care service provider shall bill a patient or other responsible person for services provided to the patient not later than the 90th day after the later of:

(1) [~~first day of the 11th month after~~] the date the services are provided; or

(2) the date the responsible person is identified to the health care service provider.

(b) If the health care service provider is required or authorized to directly bill the issuer of a health benefit plan for services provided to a patient, the health care service provider shall bill the issuer of the plan not later than:

(1) the date required under any contract between the health care service provider and the issuer of the health benefit plan; or

(2) if there is no contract between the health care service provider and the issuer of the health benefit plan, not later than the 90th day after the later of:

(A) [~~the first day of the 11th month after~~] the date the services are provided; or

(B) the date the responsible person is identified to the health care service provider.

(c) If the health care service provider is required or authorized to directly bill a third party payor operating under federal or state law, including Medicare and the state Medicaid program, the health care service provider shall bill the third party payor not later than:

(1) the date required under any contract between the health care service provider and the third party payor or the date required by federal regulation or state rule, as applicable; or

(2) if there is no contract between the health care service provider and the third party payor and there is no applicable federal regulation or state rule, not later than the 90th day after the later of:

(A) [~~the first day of the 11th month after~~] the date the services are provided; or

(B) the date the responsible person is identified to the health care service provider.

(c-1) If a health care service provider provides services to a patient that are related to a personal injury claim for which the patient is represented by an attorney and unless otherwise directed by the patient or other responsible person, the provider may satisfy the requirements of Subsection (a) by submitting the bill to the patient's attorney not later than the 90th day [~~first day of the 11th month~~] after the date the services are provided.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to health care services provided on or after the effective date of this Act. Health care services provided before the effective date of this Act are governed by the law as it existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2027.