



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

Revised Fiscal Note

(replaces fiscal note dated April 11, 2022)

Drafting Number: LLS 22-0589 Date: April 28, 2022
Prime Sponsors: Rep. Neville; Esgar Bill Status: Senate HHS
Sen. Moreno; Cooke Fiscal Analyst: Annie Scott | 303-866-5851
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Bill Topic: PROHIBIT COLLECTION HOSPITAL NOT DISCLOSING PRICES

Summary of Fiscal Impact: [X] State Revenue [X] TABOR Refund
[X] State Expenditure [] Local Government
[] State Transfer [] Statutory Public Entity

This bill prohibits a hospital from pursuing a collection action against a patient owing debt if the hospital was not in compliance with federal price transparency laws on the date that the items or services were provided to the patient, allows a patient to pursue legal action, and requires certain remedies from hospitals for violations. The bill may increase state workload and revenue beginning in FY 2022-23.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The revised fiscal note reflects the reengrossed bill.

Summary of Legislation

Under federal law, hospitals are required to post standard charges on a publically available website as of January 1, 2021. On or after February 15, 2023, the bill prohibits a critical access hospital licensed and certified by the Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) from pursuing a collection action against a patient owing debt if the hospital was not in material compliance with hospital price transparency laws on the date that the items or services were provided to the patient, and allows a patient to file suit to determine if the hospital was out of compliance with these laws. If a hospital is found to be out of material compliance, the hospital is required to:

- refund any amount of the debt that has been paid and pay a penalty to the payer in an amount equal to the total amount of the debt;
• dismiss any court action and pay any attorney fees and costs incurred by the patient relating to the action; and
• remove any report made to a consumer reporting agency relating to the debt from the patient's credit report.

State Revenue and Expenditures

Workload in the Judicial Department may increase to the extent that civil cases are filed to seek the remedies allowed under the bill. The number of cases are expected to be minimal and no additional appropriations are required. Revenue from civil filing fees may also increase minimally, and are subject to TABOR.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect 90 days following adjournment of the General Assembly sine die, assuming no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Health Care Policy and Financing
Judicial
Public Health and Environment

Information Technology
Law