Bill Summary 1st Session of the 59th Legislature

> Bill No.: Version: Author: Date:

SB 889 HASB Sen. Murdock 05/18/2025

Bill Analysis

SB 889 requires each hospital to make public a digital file in a machine-readable format that contains a list of all standard charges for all facility items or services as well as a consumerfriendly list of standard charges for a limited set of shoppable services. The list shall be published on the facility's website and shall be available free of charge without the need to establish a user account or password. The list shall also be made available to the State Department of Health using a template designated by the Department. Each facility shall maintain a list of standard charges for services and items and ensure that each list is applicable to the specific facility it purports to represent. The measure requires certain charges to be included on the list as well as any code used by the facility for purposes of accounting or billing for the facility item or service.

The measure requires each facility to publish a list of at least 300, if it offers that much or more, of its services provided. Facilities shall prioritize services frequently used and consider their billing rate for each service. The list of services shall include an easy to read description of the service, the payor-specific negotiated charge that applies to each shoppable service included on the list and any ancillary service, the discounted cash price that applies to each shoppable service or the gross charge for the shoppable service or ancillary service, the de-identified minimum negotiated charge that applies to each shoppable service, the de-identified minimum negotiated charge that applies to each shoppable service, and any code used by the facility for purposes of accounting or billing for each shoppable service. Each update to the list shall be submitted to the Department.

The Department may monitor compliance with the provisions of this measure. Any hospital found to be in violation shall be required to submit a corrective action plan after receiving notification from the Department. The measure requires any hospital found to have violated the provisions of this measure by a judge or jury to refund the payor any amount of the debt the payor has paid and to pay a penalty to the patient. The measure also expands "health care facility" as it relates to the Transparency in Health Care Prices act to include hospitals.

House Amendments

HA's to SB 889 adds hospitals to the definition of health care facility used in the Transparency in Health Care Prices Act as well as removes the repealers in the engrossed version.

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