

STATE OF NEW YORK

3470--B

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 26, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. GOTTFRIED, EPSTEIN, JACOBSON, THIELE, BARRON, SIMON, SEAWRIGHT, DINOWITZ, BENEDETTO, SAYEGH, REYES, GLICK, PERRY, ABINANTI, CRUZ, PAULIN, SOLAGES, L. ROSENTHAL, GUNTHER, AUBRY, GALEF, STECK, NIOU, WEPRIN, TAYLOR, JEAN-PIERRE, FORREST, MITAYNES, HEVESI, LUNSFORD, BRAUNSTEIN, MAMDANI, ZINERMAN, KELLES, DE LA ROSA, McDONALD, CAHILL, GONZALEZ-ROJAS, BRONSON, ANDERSON, GRIFFIN, BURDICK, DURSO, CLARK, VANEL, ENGLEBRIGHT, OTIS, PICHARDO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Health -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- reported and referred to the Committee on Codes -- reported and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to regulation of the billing of facility fees

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Section 2801 of the public health law is amended by adding
2 four new subdivisions 12, 13, 14 and 15 to read as follows:

3 12. "Facility fee" means any fee charged or billed by a hospital or by
4 a health care professional authorized under title eight of the education
5 law that is: (a) intended to compensate the hospital or health care
6 professional for the operational expenses regardless of the modality
7 through which the health care services are provided; and (b) separate
8 and distinct from a professional fee. "Facility fee" shall not include
9 any fee charged or billed by a residential health care facility.

10 13. "Health system" means a group of one or more hospitals and provid-
11 ers affiliated through ownership, governance, membership or other means.

12 14. "Fee" means any fee charged or billed by a provider for profes-
13 sional health care services provided in a hospital-based facility.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 15. "Provider" means an individual or entity, whether for profit or
2 nonprofit, whose primary purpose is to provide professional health care
3 services.

4 § 2. The public health law is amended by adding a new section 2829 to
5 read as follows:

6 § 2829. Regulation of the billing of facility fees. No hospital or
7 health system or health care provider shall bill or seek payment from a
8 patient for a facility fee that is not covered by the patient's health
9 insurance carrier unless the patient was notified prior to the date of
10 service that a facility fee would be applicable. If a health care
11 provider enters into a business relationship with a hospital or health
12 system that will result in the provider's patients being subject to
13 facility fees, the health care provider must notify its patients of the
14 change and that facility fees will now be applicable to services
15 received from the health care provider. The notice shall be provided in
16 writing at least seven days in advance of each date of service and shall
17 explain the amount of the fee, the purpose of the fee, whether the
18 patient's insurance plan will pay the fee, and for uninsured patients,
19 how to apply for financial assistance. If advance written notice is
20 infeasible because the visit was secured less than seven days in
21 advance, then a written notice shall be provided on the date the service
22 is rendered. The notice shall be provided in plain language in conspicu-
23 ous twelve-point bold face type and shall be available in the top six
24 languages spoken in the hospital's service area. In no event shall a
25 facility fee be charged for services related to the provision of preven-
26 tive care service as defined by the United States Preventive Services
27 Task Force.

28 § 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after
29 it shall have become a law.