

Submitter: Denice Searcy
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1060
YES on SB 1060 A

DIGEST: SB 1060 A makes a hospital make a public list of standard charges that lists the hospital's regular rates or prices. It also requires a hospital to establish, update and make public a list of standard charges that lists the regular rates or prices established by the hospital for items or services and shoppable services offered or provided by the hospital. Specifies the information that a list of standard charges must include. [Requires a hospital to provide each newly created or updated list of standard charges to the Oregon Health Authority.] [Directs the authority to create an electronic form for submitting complaints to the authority. Directs the authority to require a hospital to take immediate or corrective action to remedy any violations.] [Provides for a private right of action if a hospital initiates or pursues a collection action for a debt owed on an item or service if the hospital is not in compliance.] [Provides for civil penalties.]

This bill requires hospital prices on the front end and requires adherence to federal standards. It should be bi-partisan as it benefits all citizens in the state of Oregon. It seems to be a good starting place of giving patients an idea of what medical costs for procedures will be according to individual insurance plans. According to: Section 3 (2) A list of standard charges must include for each item and service the following information: (a) A description of the item or service; (b) The gross charge; (c) The payer-specific negotiated charge for each third-party payer, type of payer and coverage plan; (d) The deidentified minimum negotiated charge; (e) The deidentified maximum negotiated charge; (f) The discounted cash price; and (g) All codes used by the hospital for purposes of accounting or billing for the item or service, including the current procedural terminology (CPT) code, healthcare common procedure coding system (HCPCS) code, diagnosis related group (DRG) code, national drug code (NDC) or other common identifier.

I am in favor of this bill with the understanding that in future legislative sessions the shortcomings will be addressed.

Thank you,
Denice Searcy
Eugene, Oregon