

HB 2269 -- HEALTH CARE TRANSPARENCY

SPONSOR: Frederick

This bill establishes the Health Care Cost Reduction and Transparency Act that requires each health care provider licensed in Missouri to make available to the public and on its Internet website the most current price information required under these provisions in a manner that is easily understood by the public.

Beginning January 1, 2017, and quarterly thereafter, each health care provider licensed in Missouri must provide the amount that will be charged to a patient for each health care service or procedure if all charges are paid in full without a public or private third party paying for any portion of the charges for the 25 most frequently reported health care services or procedures.

A health care provider or facility must not be required to report the information required by these provisions if the reporting of that information reasonably could lead to the identification of the person or persons admitted to the hospital in violation of the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) or other federal law.

Beginning January 1, 2017, and quarterly thereafter, the bill requires hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, and imaging centers to make available to the public information on the total cost of the 25 most common surgical procedures and the 20 most common imaging procedures, by volume, performed in hospital or outpatient settings or in ambulatory surgical centers or imaging centers including the related current procedural terminology and health care common procedure coding system codes. The bill requires hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, and imaging centers to report specified information as delineated in the bill.

Upon request of a patient for the cost of a particular health care service or procedure, imaging procedure, or surgery procedure reported under these provisions, a health care provider or facility must provide the information to the patient in writing, either electronically or by mail, within three business days after receiving the request. Posting of such charges on the health care provider's or facility's website must constitute compliance with these provisions.