

State of Misconsin 2009 - 2010 LEGISLATURE

2009 ASSEMBLY BILL 207

April 14, 2009 – Introduced by Representatives BENEDICT, PASCH, BERCEAU, BIES, NASS, POPE-ROBERTS, SEIDEL, SMITH, SOLETSKI, SPANBAUER, STRACHOTA, TOWNSEND, VOS, A. WILLIAMS and ZEPNICK, cosponsored by Senators LEHMAN, TAYLOR, KREITLOW and ERPENBACH. Referred to Committee on Public Health.

1 AN ACT to create 146.97 of the statutes; relating to: requiring that patients be

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informed of health care facility use charges and that the charges be identified.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires a health care facility or health care provider that itemizes a charge for use of the facility to notify a patient that it will impose the facility use charge and to provide the patient with a good faith estimate of that health care facility use charge. If the appointment for an office visit is made in person or by phone, the health care facility or health care provider must notify the patient of the charge and estimate or ally at the time the appointment is made. If the appointment is not made in person or by phone, the health care facility or health care facility or health care provider must notify the patient of the charge and estimate of the charge and estimate either orally or in writing as soon as the appointment is confirmed by the provider or facility. Any appointment reminder sent to the patient must contain information about any facility use charge and a good faith estimate of the charge. The health care facility or health care provider must also, on any bill imposing the charge, identify the facility use charge as a "facility fee."

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

ASSEMBLY BILL 207

LRB-1110/4 TJD:bjk:md SECTION 1

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SECTION 1. 146.97 of the statutes is created to read:

146.97 Health care facility use charges. (1) In this section:

- (a) "Health care facility" has the meaning given in s. 146.997 (1) (c).
- 4 (b) "Health care provider" has the meaning given in s. 146.81 (1) (a) to (k).

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5 (2) If a health care facility or a health care provider itemizes a billing charge
6 for use of the health care facility during a patient's office visit with a health care
7 provider, the health care facility or health care provider shall do all of the following:

8 (a) Notify the patient that the health care facility use charge will be imposed 9 and provide a good faith estimate of the charge. If the appointment is made in person 10 or over the telephone, the health care facility or health care provider shall provide 11 the notice and estimate orally at the time the appointment is made. If the 12 appointment is not made in person or over the telephone, the health care facility or 13 health care provider shall provide the notice and estimate to the patient orally or in 14 writing as soon as the appointment is confirmed by the provider or facility.

- (b) If an appointment reminder is provided to the patient, include in the
 reminder information about the health care facility use charge and a good faith
 estimate of the charge.
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(c) Identify the health care facility use charge as a "facility fee."

(END)