

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2014

Legislative Document

No. 1642

S.P. 633

In Senate, December 23, 2013

An Act To Clarify the Law Governing Public Disclosure of Health Care Prices

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on December 23, 2013. Referred to the Committee on Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator WOODBURY of Cumberland.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1718-A, first ¶**, as enacted by PL 2013, c. 332, §1 and
3 affected by §3, is amended to read:

4 ~~Each~~ A health care practitioner, as defined in section 1711-C, subsection 1, paragraph
5 ~~F~~, entity shall maintain a price list of the health care practitioner's entity's most frequently
6 provided health care services and procedures. The prices stated must be the prices that the
7 health care practitioner entity charges clients directly, when there is no insurance
8 coverage for the services or procedures or when reimbursement by an insurance company
9 is denied. The prices stated must be accompanied by a description of the service and the
10 applicable standard medical codes listed by diagnosis code or current procedural
11 technology code. For purposes of this section, "health care entity" means a health care
12 practitioner, as defined in section 1711-C, subsection 1, paragraph F; a group of health
13 care practitioners; or a health care facility, as defined in section 1711-C, subsection 1,
14 paragraph D, that charges clients for health care services and procedures. For purposes of
15 this section, "frequently provided health care services and procedures" means those health
16 care services and procedures that were provided by the health care practitioner ~~entity~~ at
17 least 50 times in the preceding calendar year. ~~Health~~ A health care practitioners entity
18 shall inform clients about the availability of the price list ~~and provide copies of the price~~
19 ~~list upon request.~~ ~~Health~~ A health care practitioners entity shall make available written
20 information on health claims data that may be obtained through the publicly accessible
21 website of the Maine Health Data Organization established pursuant to chapter 1683.
22 This section does not apply to pharmacists.

23 **SUMMARY**

24 This bill amends the law governing the public disclosure of health care prices. It:

- 25 1. Specifies that it is a health care entity that must maintain a price list and defines
26 "health care entity" to mean a health care practitioner, a group of health care practitioners
27 or a health care facility;
- 28 2. Clarifies the information that must be included with the price list; and
- 29 3. Eliminates the requirement that health care entities make available copies of the
30 price list upon request.