

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

SMG
ROFS

1

L.D. 1760

2

Date: 4/7/14

(Filing No. S-503)

3

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

4

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate.

5

STATE OF MAINE

6

SENATE

7

126TH LEGISLATURE

8

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

9

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 698, L.D. 1760, Bill, "An Act To
10 Implement the Recommendations of the Commission To Study Transparency, Costs and
11 Accountability of Health Care System Financing"

12

Amend the bill in section 1 in §1718 in the first paragraph in the 3rd line (page 1, line
13 7 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "licensee." the following: 'If a single medical
14 encounter will involve services or procedures to be rendered by one or more 3rd-party
15 health care entities as defined in section 1718-B, subsection 1, paragraph B, the hospital
16 or ambulatory surgical center shall identify each 3rd-party health care entity to enable the
17 individual to seek an estimate of the total price of services or procedures to be rendered
18 directly by each health care entity to that individual.'

19

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 2 and 3 and inserting the following:

20

'Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §1718-C is enacted to read:

21

**§1718-C. Estimate of the total price of a single medical encounter for an uninsured
22 patient**

23

Upon the request of an uninsured patient, a health care entity, as defined in section
24 1718-B, subsection 1, paragraph B, shall provide within a reasonable time of the request
25 an estimate of the total price of medical services to be rendered directly by that health
26 care entity during a single medical encounter. If the health care entity is unable to provide
27 an accurate estimate of the total price of a specific medical service because the amount of
28 the medical service to be consumed during the medical encounter is unknown in advance,
29 the health care entity shall provide a brief description of the basis for determining the
30 total price of that particular medical service. If a single medical encounter will involve
31 medical services to be rendered by one or more 3rd-party health care entities, the health
32 care entity shall identify each 3rd-party health care entity to enable the uninsured patient
33 to seek an estimate of the total price of medical services to be rendered directly by each
34 health care entity to that patient. When providing an estimate as required by this section,
35 a health care entity shall also notify the uninsured patient of any charity care policy
36 adopted by the health care entity.'

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

ROFS

1 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or
2 section number to read consecutively.

3 **SUMMARY**

4 This amendment does the following.

5 1. It adds language to section 1 of the bill requiring hospitals and ambulatory surgical
6 centers to also identify each 3rd-party health care practitioner or facility that will provide
7 health care services or procedures to a consumer as part of a single medical encounter to
8 enable the consumer to seek an estimate of the total price of medical services to be
9 rendered directly by each practitioner or facility.

10 2. It removes the provision of the bill that requires health care practitioners to
11 prominently display information on price transparency tools to assist consumers to obtain
12 estimates of health care costs, the substance of which has been enacted into law by other
13 legislation, and removes the provision of the bill requiring each health care practitioner
14 and health care facility to provide an individualized cost estimate for a client's anticipated
15 health care services and procedures.

16 3. It requires that health care practitioners and health care facilities provide uninsured
17 patients, upon request, with an estimate of the total price of a single medical encounter
18 and notification of any charity care policy adopted by the practitioner or facility. If the
19 practitioner or facility is unable to provide an accurate estimate of the total price because
20 the amount of a medical service to be consumed during the medical encounter is
21 unknown in advance, the practitioner or facility must provide a brief description of the
22 basis for determining the total price. If a single medical encounter will involve medical
23 services to be rendered by one or more 3rd-party health care practitioners or facilities, the
24 practitioner or facility must identify each 3rd-party practitioner or facility to enable the
25 uninsured patient to seek an estimate of the total price of medical services to be rendered
26 directly by each practitioner or facility.

27 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

28 (See attached)



126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 1760

LR 2764(02)

An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Commission To Study Transparency, Costs and Accountability of Health Care System Financing

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-503)

Committee: Insurance and Financial Services

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Minor cost increase - Other Special Revenue Funds

Fiscal Detail and Notes

Additional costs to the Maine Health Data Organization are expected to be minor and can be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.