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CHAMBER ACTION

<u>Senate</u>	.	<u>House</u>
Comm: RS	.	
4/8/2008	.	
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	.	

1 The Committee on Banking and Insurance (Gaetz) recommended the
2 following **amendment**:

3
4 **Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

5 Delete line(s) 57-92
6 and insert:

7 3. A health care provider or a health care facility shall,
8 upon request, furnish an insured a person, prior to the provision
9 of any nonemergency scheduled medical services, a reasonable
10 estimate of charges for such services, electronically or in
11 writing, as preferred by the patient, and in language that, to
12 the extent possible, is comprehensible to an ordinary layperson.
13 Such estimate may be based on the contractual price, if one
14 exists, between the health care provider or health care facility
15 and the person's health insurance company. A patient who is
16 uninsured shall automatically receive an estimate of charges
17 before the provision of any nonemergency scheduled medical



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18 service. Such estimate shall reflect the price, undiscounted or
19 otherwise, which the health care provider or health care facility
20 normally charges uninsured patients for the services. Such
21 reasonable estimate does ~~shall~~ not preclude the health care
22 provider or health care facility from exceeding the estimate or
23 making additional charges based on changes in the patient's
24 condition or treatment needs.

25 4. Each licensed facility not operated by the state shall
26 make available to the public on its Internet website or by other
27 electronic means a description of and a link to the performance
28 outcome and financial data that is published by the agency
29 pursuant to s. 408.05(3)(k) and to the charity care discount
30 policy of the facility if the facility has such a policy. The
31 facility shall place a notice in the reception area that such
32 information is available electronically and the website address.
33 ~~The licensed facility may indicate that the pricing information~~
34 ~~is based on a compilation of charges for the average patient and~~
35 ~~that each patient's bill may vary from the average depending upon~~
36 ~~the severity of illness and individual resources consumed.~~ The
37 licensed facility may also indicate that the price of service is
38 negotiable for eligible patients based upon the patient's ability
39 to pay.

40 5. Except for a patient who is covered under Medicare or
41 Medicaid, a patient shall ~~has the right to~~ receive a copy of an
42 itemized bill electronically or in writing, as preferred by the
43 patient upon request. A patient has a right to be given an
44 explanation of charges upon request.

45
46 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

47 And the title is amended as follows:



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48 Delete line(s) 4-18
49 and insert:
50 amending s. 381.026, F.S.; revising requirements for
51 health care providers and facilities in notifying insured
52 persons of charges for nonemergency scheduled health care
53 services; requiring a comprehensible estimate of charges;
54 requiring the estimate to be based on a certain price;
55 requiring uninsured patients to automatically receive an
56 estimate of charges; requiring a licensed facility not
57 operated by the state to make available to the public on
58 its Internet website a description of and a link to the
59 performance outcome and financial data that is published
60 by the Agency for Health Care Administration and to the
61 charity care discount policy of the facility; deleting the
62 provision that authorizes a licensed facility to indicate
63 that pricing information is based on a compilation of
64 charges for the average patient; providing an exception to
65 the requirement that a patient receive a copy of his or
66 her itemized bill; amending s. 395.301, F.S.;