

HOUSE No. 1920

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael A. Costello

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to transparent billing practices.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Michael A. Costello

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

1st Essex

HOUSE No. 1920

By Mr. Costello of Newburyport, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1920) of Michael A. Costello relative to requiring that health care facilities, ambulatory surgical centers, or outpatient facilities bill all public and private payers for services using their assigned national provider identification number. Public Health.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE
 HOUSE
 , NO. 1471 OF 2011-2012.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen
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An Act relative to transparent billing practices.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 111 is hereby amended by inserting the following new section: Section 51 ½.
2 Hospital Billing and Licensure. As used in this section the following terms shall have the
3 following meanings: “Facility of Primary Licensure” means the single physical structure and
4 location where the majority of the hospital’s licensed beds are located. (a) Every acute-care
5 hospital that provides any services at a location other than its “Facility of Primary Licensure” is
6 prohibited from operating a Secondary Facility pursuant to the original license of the Facility of
7 Primary Licensure and is hereby required to obtain from the Department a new license for that
8 location if the facility constitutes a Secondary Facility. A facility constitutes a Secondary Facility
9 if: a. The facility is physically located a distance greater than 500 yards, or b. The facility
10 requires or maintains separate heating, cooling, electric, sewer systems from the Facility of
11 Primary Licensure. (b) The licensed Secondary Facility shall obtain from the federal Centers for
12 Medicare and Medicaid Services a separate National Provider Identification Number. (c) Every
13 health care facility, ambulatory surgical center, or outpatient facility shall bill all public and
14 private payors for services using the National Provider Identification Number assigned to the
15 specific facility and physical locations where the services were provided. (d) No public or private

16 payor shall be required to pay a claim billed by a health care facility, ambulatory surgical center,
17 or outpatient facility not billed in accordance with this section. (e) Subject to any agreement
18 between the parties, a Secondary facility shall bill a carrier for services at a rate negotiated by the
19 parties separately from the rates for the Facility of Primary Licensure or in the absence of an
20 agreement, 110% of Medicare. (f) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter the Department
21 shall not grant a license to any Secondary Facility unless there is a determination by the
22 department that there is a need for such a facility pursuant to Section 25C. Secondary Facilities
23 in operation as of the effective date of this section shall be exempt from the Department's
24 determination of need requirements. (g) The Department along with the Office of the Attorney
25 General shall have the authority to enforce the requirements of this section.