

SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

S.F. No. 1741

(SENATE AUTHORS: DAHLE and Latz)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
03/16/2015	895	Introduction and first reading Referred to Judiciary
03/18/2015		Comm report: To pass as amended Second reading

A bill for an act

1.1 relating to health; allowing a patient to enjoin collection actions taken by a
 1.2 nonprofit hospital if the hospital has failed to provide a financial assistance
 1.3 policy; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 604.
 1.4

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. [604.175] COMPLIANCE WITH DEBT COLLECTION

1.7 REQUIREMENTS.

1.8 (a) Any patient may bring an action to enjoin extraordinary collection actions taken
 1.9 by a nonprofit hospital if the hospital has failed to provide a plain language summary of
 1.10 the financial assistance policy. A prevailing patient is entitled to reasonable attorney
 1.11 fees and costs.

1.12 (b) For the purposes of this section:

1.13 (1) "extraordinary collection actions" means an action described in Code of Federal
 1.14 Regulations, title 26, section 1.501(r)-6;

1.15 (2) "financial assistance policy" means a written policy that meets the requirements
 1.16 described in Code of Federal Regulations, title 26, section 1.501(r)-4;

1.17 (3) "nonprofit hospital" means a hospital that claims federal tax status under United
 1.18 States Code, title 26, section 501(r); and

1.19 (4) "plain language summary" has the meaning given in Code of Federal Regulations,
 1.20 title 26, section 501(r)-1.

1.21 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective January 1, 2016, and applies to a
 1.22 nonprofit hospital on and after the date in 2016 when its fiscal year begins.