

HOUSE BILL 1376

By Sexton J

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8;
Title 33; Title 56; Title 63 and Title 68, relative to
health insurance.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 1, Part 1, is amended by adding the following new section:

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), a healthcare provider shall, prior to providing a healthcare service to any patient, inform the patient or the patient's legal representative whether any insurance policy the patient may have is accepted by the provider and, if so, whether the provider is in-network.

(b) If a patient is experiencing a medical emergency that prevents a healthcare provider from communicating the information required by subsection (a), then the provider may satisfy the requirement of subsection (a) by informing the patient or the patient's legal representative of the information at the earliest reasonable opportunity after the medical emergency has ceased.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 11, Part 2, is amended by adding the following new section:

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), a facility, as defined in § 68-11-201, shall, prior to providing a healthcare service to any patient, inform the patient or the patient's legal representative whether any insurance policy the patient may have is accepted by the facility and, if so, whether the services the patient will receive will be considered in-network.

(b) If a patient is experiencing a medical emergency that prevents a facility from communicating the information required by subsection (a), then the facility may satisfy the requirement of subsection (a) by informing the patient or the patient's legal representative of the information at the earliest reasonable opportunity after the medical emergency has ceased.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.