

NOTE: This bill has been prepared for the signatures of the appropriate legislative officers and the Governor. To determine whether the Governor has signed the bill or taken other action on it, please consult the legislative status sheet, the legislative history, or the Session Laws.



HOUSE BILL 22-1403

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Jodeh, Hooton, Lindsay, Ricks, Valdez A.;
also SENATOR(S) Buckner.

CONCERNING A THREE-MONTH DELAY IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
HEALTH-CARE BILLING REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIGENT PATIENTS
ESTABLISHED IN HOUSE BILL 21-1198.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-3-502, **amend** (1) introductory portion as follows:

25.5-3-502. Requirement to screen patients for eligibility for public health-care programs and discounted care - rules. (1) Beginning ~~June 1, 2022~~ SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, a health-care facility shall screen, unless a patient declines, each uninsured patient for eligibility for:

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-3-503, **amend** (1) introductory portion as follows:

25.5-3-503. Health-care discounts on services not eligible for Colorado indigent care program reimbursement. (1) Beginning ~~June 1,~~

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing law; dashes through words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law and such material is not part of the act.

~~2022~~ SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, if a patient is screened pursuant to section 25.5-3-502 and is determined to be a qualified patient, a health-care facility and a licensed health-care professional shall, for emergency and other non-CICP health-care services:

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-3-504, **amend** (1) introductory portion as follows:

25.5-3-504. Notification of patients' rights. (1) Beginning ~~June 1,~~ 2022 SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, a health-care facility shall make information developed by the state department about patients' rights under this part 5 and the uniform application developed by the state department pursuant to section 25.5-3-505 (2)(i) available to the public and to each patient. At a minimum, the health-care facility shall:

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-3-505, **amend** (1) as follows:

25.5-3-505. Health-care facility reporting requirements - agency enforcement - report - rules. (1) Beginning ~~June 1,~~ 2023 SEPTEMBER 1, 2023, and each ~~June 1~~ SEPTEMBER 1 thereafter, each health-care facility shall report to the state department data that the state department determines is necessary to evaluate compliance across race, ethnicity, age, and primary-language-spoken patient groups with the screening, discounted care, payment plan, and collections practices required pursuant to this part 5. If a health-care facility is not capable of disaggregating the data required pursuant to this subsection (1) by race, ethnicity, age, and primary language spoken, the health-care facility shall report to the state department the steps the facility is taking to improve race, ethnicity, age, and primary-language-spoken data collection and the date by which the facility will be able to disaggregate the reported data.

SECTION 5. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-3-506, **amend** (1) introductory portion as follows:

25.5-3-506. Limitations on collection actions - private enforcement. (1) Beginning ~~June 1,~~ 2022 SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, before assigning or selling patient debt to a collection agency, as defined in section 5-16-103 (3)(a), or a debt buyer, as defined in section 5-16-103 (8.5), or before pursuing, either directly or indirectly, any permissible extraordinary

collection action, as defined in section 6-20-201 (7):

SECTION 6. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 6-20-203, **amend** (3)(a), (4) introductory portion, and (5) introductory portion as follows:

6-20-203. Limitations on collection actions - definition.

(3) (a) Beginning ~~June 1, 2022~~ SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, at least thirty days before taking any permissible extraordinary collection action, a medical creditor, as defined in section 6-20-201 (6)(a), collecting on a debt for hospital services shall notify the patient of potential collection actions and shall include with the notice a statement developed by the department of health care policy and financing that explains the availability of discounted care for qualified individuals and how to apply for such care.

(4) Beginning ~~June 1, 2022~~ SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, if a medical creditor collecting on a debt for hospital services bills or initiates collection activities and it is later determined that the patient should have been screened pursuant to section 25.5-3-503 and is determined to be a qualified patient, as defined in section 25.5-3-501 (5), or it is determined that the patient's bill is eligible for reimbursement through a public health-care coverage program or the Colorado indigent care program, the medical creditor shall:

(5) Beginning ~~June 1, 2022~~ SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, a medical creditor collecting on a debt for hospital services shall not sell a medical debt to another party unless, prior to the sale, the medical debt seller has entered into a legally binding written agreement with the medical debt buyer of the debt pursuant to which:

SECTION 7. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds,

determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.

Alec Garnett
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Steve Fenberg
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Robin Jones
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Cindi L. Markwell
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE

APPROVED _____
(Date and Time)

Jared S. Polis
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF COLORADO