AN ACT
To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1300.111 and 1300.113(A)(introductory paragraph), (1), and (9), and to repeal R.S. 40:1300.113(B), relative to public information concerning prices and quality of health services; to provide for legislative intent; to provide for duties of the Department of Health and Hospitals relative to collecting and reporting of healthcare data; to require promulgation of rules; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 40:1300.111 and 1300.113(A)(introductory paragraph), (1), and (9) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1300.111. Findings; legislative intent

A. The legislature hereby finds all of the following:

(1) As a result of rising health care healthcare costs, the shortage of health professionals and health care healthcare services in many areas of the state, and the concerns expressed by consumers, health care healthcare providers, third-party payers, and others involved with making informed decisions regarding health care healthcare services, treatment, and coverage, there is a need to have access to provider specific health care healthcare cost, quality, and outcome data on health care healthcare facilities, health care healthcare providers, and health plans as well as continued access to global patterns and trends in the availability, use, and charges for health care healthcare services and the associated health circumstances.

(2) Due to the rapidly expanding availability of and access to patient sensitive health care healthcare data, it is necessary to establish safeguards which ensure the level of protection of patient encounter data that Louisiana citizens...
deserve, and which protect the privacy of health information comprising data sets
that are reported and disseminated to improve the population health of this state.

B. It is the intent of the legislature to improve transparency in prices and care
quality measures by providing for the creation and maintenance of a useful and
comprehensive health service information database that can be publicly accessed in
a manner that ensures protection of individuals' confidential health information and
respects providers of care.

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§1300.113. Data collection; powers and duties of the Department of Health and
Hospitals

A. The department, through the office of public health and in consultation
with the Health Data Panel, shall:

(1) Identify and define the health care healthcare cost, quality, and
performance data elements to be reported to the department in accordance with
existing national and international data standards for facilitating meaningful
comparison by consumers of costs for specific health care healthcare services and
specific quality of care measures between and among medical facilities, health care
healthcare providers, and health plans. Such data elements shall include, without
limitation, the items specified in Paragraph (9) of this Subsection.

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(9)(a) Provide the process for Internet publication of provider and health plan
specific cost, quality, and performance data collected pursuant to this Part for access
and use by a consumer or requesting entity. At minimum, this data shall include all
of the following items:

(i) Healthcare quality information that is easily understandable by the
average consumer and is published in a format that allows the user to compare such
information across providers to the extent practicable.

(ii) Data related to payments for health services rendered by healthcare
facilities and practitioners published in an interactive format from which the user can
generate reports of such data.

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underscored
are additions.
(iii) Data identifying at least fifteen of the most commonly used diagnosis codes, at least fifteen of the most commonly used procedure codes, and any emerging health trends for diagnosis and treatment related to hospitalization. The department shall publish this data in a format that facilitates comparison of the data from hospitals and other licensed health facilities of this state to similar data for medical care rendered in other states, to the extent that such data is available.

(iv) A list of the hospitals and other licensed health facilities that are in compliance with the reporting requirements promulgated by the department, and a list of the hospitals and other licensed health facilities that are not in compliance with such requirements.

(b) The department shall update the information provided for in this Paragraph at least annually.

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Section 2. R.S. 40:1300.113(B) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

Section 3. On or before December 1, 2015, the Department of Health and Hospitals shall promulgate all rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act as are necessary to provide for online publication of data related to health services as specified in Section 1 of this Act.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: __________________________