

# SENATE BILL 144

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(PRE-FILED)

4r0485  
CF HB 153

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By: **Senators Hettleman and Gile**

Requested: August 14, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Finance

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Medical Records – Fees – Attorneys Representing Patients**

3 FOR the purpose of adding an attorney representing a patient to the list of individuals to  
4 whom a health care provider is prohibited from charging a fee for providing copies of  
5 a medical record that will be used for the purpose of filing a claim regarding or  
6 appealing a denial of Social Security disability income or Social Security benefits;  
7 and generally relating to fees for medical records.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
9 Article – Health – General  
10 Section 4–304(a)(1)  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2023 Replacement Volume)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
14 Article – Health – General  
15 Section 4–304(c)(5)  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2023 Replacement Volume)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
19 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article – Health – General**

21 4–304.

22 (a) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, a health care provider  
23 shall comply within a reasonable time after a person in interest requests in writing:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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- 1 (i) To receive a copy of a medical record; or
- 2 (ii) To see and copy the medical record.
- 3 (c) (5) A health care provider or a representative of the health care provider  
4 may not charge a fee for providing copies of a medical record:
- 5 (i) Requested by:
- 6 1. The patient;
- 7 2. The patient's personal representative; [or]
- 8 3. An employee or other representative of a nonprofit legal  
9 services entity or other volunteer or nonprofit program representing the patient; [and] **OR**
- 10 4. **AN ATTORNEY REPRESENTING THE PATIENT; AND**
- 11 (ii) That will be used for the purpose of filing a claim regarding or  
12 appealing a denial of Social Security disability income or Social Security benefits under  
13 Title II or Title XVI of the Social Security Act.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
15 October 1, 2024.