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H.659

Introduced by Representatives Dunn of Essex, Bissonnette of Winooski,  
Browning of Arlington, Buckholz of Hartford, Chesnut-  
Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Christie of Hartford,  
Donovan of Burlington, Fields of Bennington, Gardner of  
Richmond, Gonzalez of Winooski, Howard of Rutland City,  
Joseph of North Hero, Keenan of St. Albans City, Lanpher of  
Vergennes, Lefebvre of Newark, Lucke of Hartford, Masland of  
Thetford, Miller of Shaftsbury, Noyes of Wolcott, Ode of  
Burlington, Partridge of Windham, Poirier of Barre City,  
Sheldon of Middlebury, Sibilias of Dover, Squirrell of Underhill,  
Stuart of Brattleboro, Sullivan of Dorset, Sullivan of  
Burlington, Townsend of South Burlington, Troiano of  
Stannard, Walz of Barre City, Webb of Shelburne, Weed of  
Enosburgh, and Wood of Waterbury

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Health; hospitals; price transparency; payment plans

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require health  
care providers, upon ordering a procedure or surgery, to direct the patient to  
the applicable health care facility's finance department to discuss the costs of

1 the procedure or surgery under the patient's health plan and to set up a  
2 payment plan, if necessary.

3 An act relating to price transparency for surgeries and procedures

4 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

5 Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 9413a is added to read:

6 § 9413a. PRICE TRANSPARENCY FOR SURGERIES AND

7 PROCEDURES

8 Upon ordering a procedure or surgery, the patient's health care provider  
9 shall direct the patient to the finance department at the health care facility at  
10 which the procedure or surgery will be performed to discuss the costs of the  
11 procedure or surgery under the patient's health insurance or other health  
12 benefit plan and to set up a payment plan, if necessary.

13 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

14 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.