HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

Chair of Cor	mmittee	<u>April 21, 20</u> Date	021
Committee on Health & Insurance.			
After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:			
<u>HB21-1198</u>	be amended as follows, ar the Committee on Agreeommendation:	•	
Amend printed bill, page 3, line 17, strike "AFFILIATED WITH OR" and substitute "THAT IS LICENSED AS AN ON-CAMPUS DEPARTMENT OR SERVICE OF A HOSPITAL OR THAT IS LISTED AS AN OFF-CAMPUS LOCATION UNDER A HOSPITAL'S LICENSE, EXCEPT A FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTER, AS DEFINED IN THE FEDERAL "SOCIAL SECURITY ACT", 42 U.S.C. SEC. 1395x (aa)(4).".			
Page 3, strike lines 18 and 19.			
Page 4, after line 23 insert:			
"(7) "Uninsured" means an uninsured individual, as defined in section $10-22-113$ (5)(d).".			
Page 5, line 22, after "RULES." insert "A PATIENT'S DECISION TO DECLINE THE SCREENING THAT IS DOCUMENTED AND COMPLIES WITH STATE DEPARTMENT RULES IS A COMPLETE DEFENSE TO A CLAIM BROUGHT BY A PATIENT UNDER SECTION 25.5-3-506 (2) FOR A VIOLATION OF SECTION 25.5-3-506 (1)(a) OR (1)(b)."			
Page 6, line 5, strike "EIGHTY" and substitute "THE DISCOUNTED RATE ESTABLISHED IN STATE DEPARTMENT RULE PURSUANT TO SECTION			



25.5-3-505 (2)(j);".

- 1 Page 6, strike line 6.
- 2 Page 6, line 9, strike "FIVE" and substitute "FOUR".
- 3 Page 6, strike lines 10 and 11 and substitute "MONTHLY HOUSEHOLD
- 4 INCOME ON A BILL FROM A HEALTH-CARE FACILITY AND NOT PAYING MORE
- 5 THAN TWO PERCENT OF THE PATIENT'S MONTHLY HOUSEHOLD INCOME ON
- 6 A BILL FROM A LICENSED HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL; AND".
- 7 Page 7, line 10, strike "VERBALLY" and substitute "VERBALLY, WHICH
- 8 MAY INCLUDE USING A PROFESSIONAL INTERPRETATION SERVICE,".
- 9 Page 8, line 11, strike "DOCUMENTING" and substitute "DOCUMENTING,
- 10 PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-3-502 (4),".
- Page 8, strike line 12 and substitute "MADE AN INFORMED DECISION TO
- 12 DECLINE THE SCREENING, INCLUDING PROCEDURES FOR RETAINING SUCH
- 13 DOCUMENTATION;".
- 14 Page 9, line 6, strike "AND".
- 15 Page 9, line 10, strike "25.5-3-502." and substitute "25.5-3-502; AND
- 16 (i) Annually establish rates for discounted care
- 17 PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-3-503 (1)(a). THE RATES SHOULD
- 18 APPROXIMATE AND NOT BE LESS THAN EIGHTY PERCENT OF THE MEDICARE
- 19 RATE OR, IF A MEDICARE RATE IS NOT AVAILABLE, ONE HUNDRED PERCENT
- 20 OF THE MEDICAID BASE RATE. THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL PUBLICLY
- 21 POST THE ESTABLISHED RATES ON THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE.".
- Page 9, after line 18 insert:
- "(4) PRIOR TO PROMULGATING RULES PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION,
- 24 THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL HOLD AT LEAST ONE STAKEHOLDER
- 25 MEETING WITH HOSPITAL REPRESENTATIVES, HEALTH-CARE CONSUMERS,
- 26 AND HEALTH-CARE CONSUMER ADVOCATES THAT IS ACCESSIBLE TO
- 27 INDIVIDUALS WHOSE PRIMARY LANGUAGE IS NOT ENGLISH, IF
- 28 REQUESTED.".
- 29 Renumber succeeding subsections accordingly.
- Page 9, line 21, strike "DEVELOP" and substitute "USING FEEDBACK FROM



- 1 HOSPITAL HEALTH-CARE CONSUMERS AND HEALTH-CARE CONSUMER
- 2 ADVOCATE STAKEHOLDERS, DEVELOP".
- 3 Page 9, line 25, strike "STATE." and substitute "STATE AND POST THE
- 4 WRITTEN EXPLANATION IN ALL REQUIRED LANGUAGES ON THE STATE
- 5 DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE.".
- 6 Page 11, line 6, strike "(4)(b)(II)" and substitute "(5)(b)(II)".
- 7 Page 11, line 15, strike "(4)(b)" and substitute "(5)(b)".
- 8 Page 11, line 21, strike "(6):" and substitute "(7):".
- 9 Page 11, strike lines 26 and 27 and substitute "PURSUANT TO SECTION
- 10 25.5-3-503;".
- 11 Page 12, strike line 1.
- 12 Page 12, line 2, strike "PROVIDE" and substitute "A HEALTH-CARE
- 13 FACILITY AND LICENSED HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL SHALL PROVIDE".
- Page 12, line 4, strike "ACTIONS." and substitute "ACTIONS; AND
- 15 (d) A HEALTH-CARE FACILITY AND HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL
- 16 SHALL BILL ANY THIRD-PARTY PAYER THAT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR
- 17 PROVIDING HEALTH-CARE COVERAGE TO THE PATIENT.".
- 18 Page 13, line 21, strike "6-20-203." and substitute "6-20-203 (1), (2),
- 19 (3)(b), (4)(a), (4)(b)(I), (4)(d), (4)(e), OR (5)(a) TO (5)(c).".
- 20 Page 13, lines 22 and 23, strike "**amend** (3); and".
- 21 Page 13, strike lines 26 and 27.
- Page 14, strike line 1.
- 23 Page 14, before line 2 insert:
- 24 "(4) "HOSPITAL SERVICES" MEANS HEALTH-CARE SERVICES, AS
- 25 DEFINED IN SECTION 10-16-102 (33), PROVIDED BY A HEALTH-CARE
- 26 FACILITY, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 25.5-3-501 (1), OR A LICENSED
- 27 HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 25.5-3-501 (3).".



- 1 Renumber succeeding subsections accordingly.
- 2 Page 14, strike lines 3 through 6 and substitute "MEANS INITIATING
- 3 FORECLOSURE ON AN INDIVIDUAL'S PRIMARY RESIDENCE OR HOMESTEAD,
- 4 INCLUDING A MOBILE HOME, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 38-12-201.5 (5).".
- 5 Page 14, strike lines 7 through 22 and substitute:
- 6 "(6) "MEDICAL CREDITOR" MEANS AN ENTITY THAT ATTEMPTS TO COLLECT ON A MEDICAL DEBT, INCLUDING:
- 8 (a) A HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER OR HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER'S 9 BILLING OFFICE;
- 10 (b) A COLLECTION AGENCY, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 5-16-103 (3);
- 11 (c) A DEBT BUYER, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 5-16-103 (8.5); AND
- 12 (d) A DEBT COLLECTOR, AS DEFINED IN 15 U.S.C. SEC. 1692a (6).".
- Page 15, strike lines 1 and 2 and substitute "PERSONAL PROPERTY, OR
- 14 GARNISHING AN INDIVIDUAL'S WAGES.".
- 15 Page 15, line 5, strike "(1) As".
- 16 Page 15, strike lines 6 through 8.
- 17 Renumber succeeding subsections accordingly.
- Page 15, strike line 11 and substitute "HOSPITAL SERVICES.".
- 19 Page 15, line 12, strike "OR MEDICAL DEBT COLLECTOR".
- 20 Page 15, lines 13 and 14, strike "HEALTH-CARE SERVICES PROVIDED BY A
- 21 HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER" and substitute "HOSPITAL SERVICES".
- Page 15, line 15, strike "EIGHTY" and substitute "EIGHTY-TWO".
- Page 15, strike line 16 and substitute "AFTER THE DATE THE PATIENT
- 24 RECEIVES HOSPITAL SERVICES.".
- 25 Page 15, strike lines 17 through 27 and substitute:
- 26 "(3) (a) AT LEAST THIRTY DAYS BEFORE TAKING ANY PERMISSIBLE
- 27 EXTRAORDINARY COLLECTION ACTION, A MEDICAL CREDITOR, AS DEFINED



- 1 IN SECTION 6-20-201 (6)(a), COLLECTING ON A DEBT FOR HOSPITAL
- 2 SERVICES SHALL NOTIFY THE PATIENT OF POTENTIAL COLLECTION ACTIONS
- 3 AND SHALL INCLUDE WITH THE NOTICE A STATEMENT DEVELOPED BY THE
- 4 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING THAT EXPLAINS
- 5 THE AVAILABILITY OF DISCOUNTED CARE FOR QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS AND
- 6 HOW TO APPLY FOR SUCH CARE.
- 7 (b) (I) A MEDICAL CREDITOR, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 6-20-201
- 8 (6)(b), (6)(c), OR (6)(d), COLLECTING ON A DEBT FOR HOSPITAL SERVICES
- 9 SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT IN THE NOTICES THE
- 10 MEDICAL CREDITOR PROVIDES TO THE PATIENT PURSUANT TO SECTION
- 11 5-16-109 (1) AND 15 U.S.C. SEC. 1692g (a): "PURSUANT TO COLORADO
- 12 LAW, DISCOUNTS FOR HOSPITAL SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE FOR QUALIFIED
- 13 INDIVIDUALS." THE STATEMENT MUST INCLUDE A LINK TO THE WRITTEN
- 14 EXPLANATION OF THE PATIENT'S RIGHTS THAT IS POSTED TO THE
- 15 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING'S WEBSITE
- 16 PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-3-505 (4)(a).
- 17 (II) A MEDICAL CREDITOR, AS DEFINED SECTION 6-20-201 (6)(b),
- 18 (6)(c), OR (6)(d), SHALL NOT TAKE ANY PERMISSIBLE EXTRAORDINARY
- 19 COLLECTION ACTIONS UNTIL THE LATER OF THIRTY DAYS FROM THE DATE
- OF SENDING THE NOTICE REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (3)(b)(I) OF
- 21 THIS SECTION OR THE COMPLETION OF THE VALIDATION REQUIREMENTS
- 22 DESCRIBED IN SECTION 5-16-109 (2) AND 15 U.S.C. SEC. 1692g (b).".
- Page 16, strike lines 1 through 4.
- Page 16, strike line 6 and substitute "HOSPITAL SERVICES BILLS OR".
- 25 Page 16, line 8, strike "FOR DISCOUNTED CARE".
- Page 16, line 10, strike "THE MEDICAL CREDITOR SHALL" and substitute
- 27 "OR IT IS DETERMINED THAT THE PATIENT'S BILL IS ELIGIBLE FOR
- 28 REIMBURSEMENT THROUGH A PUBLIC HEALTH-CARE COVERAGE PROGRAM
- OR THE COLORADO INDIGENT CARE PROGRAM, THE MEDICAL CREDITOR
- 30 SHALL:".
- 31 Page 16, strike line 11.
- Page 16, line 12, strike "DELETING" and substitute "DELETE".
- Page 16, strike lines 14 through 23 and substitute:



- "(b) (I) UNLESS PROHIBITED BY LAW, IF THE COURT HAS ENTERED A JUDGMENT ON THE MEDICAL DEBT:
- (A) REQUEST THE COURT VACATE THE JUDGMENT IN ANY COLLECTION LAWSUIT OVER THE MEDICAL DEBT AND ENTER INTO A PAYMENT PLAN WITH THE PATIENT THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 25.5-3-503 (1)(b);
- (B) REQUEST THE COURT REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF THE JUDGMENT, INCLUDING ANY FEES AND COSTS RELATED TO THE COLLECTION LAWSUIT, TO THE TOTAL AMOUNT THE PATIENT OWES PURSUANT TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH-CARE COVERAGE PROGRAM OR DISCOUNTED CARE POLICY THAT THE PATIENT QUALIFIES FOR, ENTER INTO A PAYMENT PLAN WITH THE PATIENT THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 25.5-3-503 (1)(b), AND SUSPEND ALL EXECUTION ON THE JUDGMENT WHILE THE PATIENT IS COMPLIANT WITH THE TERMS OF THE PAYMENT PLAN; OR
- (C) FILE A SATISFACTION OF JUDGMENT SUCH THAT THE REMAINING UNPAID BALANCE OF THE JUDGMENT, INCLUDING ANY FEES AND COSTS RELATED TO THE COLLECTION LAWSUIT, IS EQUAL TO THE TOTAL AMOUNT THE PATIENT OWES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH-CARE COVERAGE PROGRAM OR DISCOUNTED CARE POLICY THAT THE PATIENT QUALIFIES FOR, ENTER INTO A PAYMENT PLAN WITH THE PATIENT THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 25.5-3-503 (1)(b), AND SUSPEND ALL EXECUTION ON THE JUDGMENT WHILE THE PATIENT IS COMPLIANT WITH THE TERMS OF THE PAYMENT PLAN.
- (II) FOR THE PURPOSES OF SUBSECTION (4)(b)(I)(B) AND (4)(b)(I)(C) OF THIS SECTION, THE COURT SHALL REFUND TO THE PARTIES ANY FEES AND COSTS PAID TO THE COURT IN CONNECTION WITH THE LITIGATION OF THE MEDICAL DEBT AND THE HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER SHALL INDEMNIFY THE MEDICAL CREDITOR FOR ANY FEES AWARDED AS PART OF THE JUDGMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE MEDICAL DEBT.
- (c) As the term "medical creditor" is defined in Section 6-20-201 (6)(a), refund any excess amount to the patient if the patient has paid any part of the medical debt or if any of the patient's money has been seized or levied in excess of the amount that the patient owes after application of required discounts;
- (d) As the term "medical creditor" is defined in sections 6-20-201 (6)(b), (6)(c), and (6)(d), if the patient has paid any part of the medical debt or if any of the patient's money has been seized or levied in excess of the amount that the patient owes after application of required discounts, refund any excess amount to the patient to the extent the medical creditor has not already remitted such an amount to the health-care provider; and



- 1 (e) REMEDY ANY OTHER PERMISSIBLE EXTRAORDINARY
- 2 COLLECTION ACTION.".
- 3 Page 16, strike line 25 and substitute "HOSPITAL SERVICES SHALL".
- 4 Page 16, line 27, strike "CREDITOR" and substitute "DEBT SELLER".
- 5 Page 17, line 3, strike "OR COLLECTOR".
- 6 Page 17, strike lines 6 through 8.
- 7 Reletter succeeding paragraphs accordingly.
- 8 Page 17, strike lines 10 through 12 and substitute "DEBT SELLER UPON A
- 9 DETERMINATION THAT THE PATIENT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SCREENED
- 10 PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-3-502 AND IS ELIGIBLE FOR DISCOUNTED CARE
- 11 PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-3-503 OR THAT THE BILL UNDERLYING THE
- 12 MEDICAL DEBT IS ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT THROUGH A PUBLIC
- 13 HEALTH-CARE COVERAGE PROGRAM OR THE COLORADO INDIGENT CARE
- 14 PROGRAM; AND".
- Page 17, strike lines 13 and 14 and substitute:
- 16 "(c) If it is determined that the patient should have been
- 17 SCREENED PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-3-502 AND IS ELIGIBLE FOR
- 18 DISCOUNTED CARE PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.5-3-503 OR THAT THE BILL
- 19 UNDERLYING THE MEDICAL DEBT IS ELIGIBLE FOR REIMBURSEMENT
- 20 THROUGH A PUBLIC HEALTH-CARE COVERAGE PROGRAM OR THE
- 21 COLORADO INDIGENT CARE PROGRAM AND THE DEBT IS".
- Page 17, line 15, strike "CREDITOR," and substitute "DEBT SELLER,".
- Page 17, after line 20 insert:
- 24 "(6) THE MEDICAL DEBT SELLER SHALL INDEMNIFY THE MEDICAL
- 25 DEBT BUYER FOR ANY AMOUNT PAID FOR A DEBT THAT IS RETURNED TO OR
- 26 RECALLED BY THE MEDICAL DEBT SELLER.".
- 27 Renumber succeeding subsection accordingly.
- Page 17, line 22, after "PURSUE" insert "AGAINST ANY PARTY OTHER THAN



- 1 THE PATIENT".
- 2 Page 17, line 25, strike "OR FAULT-BASED INSURANCE." and substitute
- 3 "FAULT-BASED INSURANCE, SUBROGATED CLAIMS, OR OTHER CLAIMS NOT

4 AGAINST THE PATIENT.".

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