
By: **Delegates Gordon and Guns**
Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2001
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Medical Records - Copying Costs - Medical Bills**

3 FOR the purposes of providing that a medical record includes a medical bill for
4 purposes of the costs and fees charged by health care providers and hospitals for
5 copying medical records.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article - Health - General
8 Section 4-304(c)
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2000 Replacement Volume)

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

13 **Article - Health - General**

14 4-304.

15 (c) (1)(I) IN THIS SUBSECTION, "MEDICAL RECORD" INCLUDES A MEDICAL
16 BILL.

17 (II) The provisions of this subsection do not apply to x-rays.

18 (2) A health care provider may require a person in interest or any other
19 authorized person who requests a copy of a medical record to pay the cost of copying:

20 (i) For State facilities regulated by the Department of Health and
21 Mental Hygiene, as provided in § 10-621 of the State Government Article; or

22 (ii) For all other health care providers, the reasonable cost of
23 providing the information requested.

24 (3) (i) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (4) of this subsection, for
25 a copy of a medical record requested by a person in interest or any other authorized

1 person under paragraph (2)(ii) of this subsection, a health care provider may charge a
2 fee for copying and mailing not exceeding 50 cents for each page of the medical record.

3 (ii) In addition to the fee charged under subparagraph (i) of this
4 paragraph, a hospital or a health care provider may charge:

5 1. A preparation fee not to exceed \$15 for medical record
6 retrieval and preparation; and

7 2. The actual cost for postage and handling of the medical
8 record.

9 (4) On or after July 1, 1995, the fees charged under paragraph (3) of this
10 subsection may be adjusted annually for inflation in accordance with the Consumer
11 Price Index.

12 (5) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any person or entity who
13 is not subject to the provisions of this subsection and who obtains a medical record
14 from a health care provider or the provider's agent may not charge a fee for any
15 subsequent copies of that medical record that exceeds the fee authorized under
16 paragraph (3)(i) of this subsection.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2001.