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

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 14, 2001

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

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

3 FOR the purposes of providing that a medical record includes a copy of a medical bill
4 under certain circumstances for purposes of the costs and fees charged by health
5 care providers and hospitals for 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 COPY
16 OF A MEDICAL BILL THAT HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY AN INDIVIDUAL.

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:

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

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

5 (3) (i) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (4) of this subsection, for
6 a copy of a medical record requested by a person in interest or any other authorized
7 person under paragraph (2)(ii) of this subsection, a health care provider may charge a
8 fee for copying and mailing not exceeding 50 cents for each page of the medical record.

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

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

13 2. The actual cost for postage and handling of the medical
14 record.

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

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

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