

Second Regular Session
Seventy-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 22-1050.01 Shelby Ross x4510

HOUSE BILL 22-1403

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Jodeh,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

House Committees
Health & Insurance

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING A THREE-MONTH DELAY IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
102 HEALTH-CARE BILLING REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIGENT PATIENTS
103 ESTABLISHED IN HOUSE BILL 21-1198.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

House Bill 21-1198 established health-care billing requirements for indigent patients beginning June 1, 2022. The bill changes the beginning date to September 1, 2022.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-3-502, **amend**
3 (1) introductory portion as follows:

4 **25.5-3-502. Requirement to screen patients for eligibility for**
5 **public health-care programs and discounted care - rules.**

6 (1) Beginning ~~June 1, 2022~~ SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, a health-care facility
7 shall screen, unless a patient declines, each uninsured patient for
8 eligibility for:

9 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-3-503, **amend**
10 (1) introductory portion as follows:

11 **25.5-3-503. Health-care discounts on services not eligible for**
12 **Colorado indigent care program reimbursement.** (1) Beginning ~~June~~
13 ~~1, 2022~~ SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, if a patient is screened pursuant to section
14 25.5-3-502 and is determined to be a qualified patient, a health-care
15 facility and a licensed health-care professional shall, for emergency and
16 other non-CICP health-care services:

17 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-3-504, **amend**
18 (1) introductory portion as follows:

19 **25.5-3-504. Notification of patients' rights.** (1) Beginning ~~June~~
20 ~~1, 2022~~ SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, a health-care facility shall make information
21 developed by the state department about patients' rights under this part 5
22 and the uniform application developed by the state department pursuant
23 to section 25.5-3-505 (2)(i) available to the public and to each patient. At
24 a minimum, the health-care facility shall:

25 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-3-505, **amend**
26 (1) as follows:

27 **25.5-3-505. Health-care facility reporting requirements -**

1 **agency enforcement - report - rules.** (1) Beginning ~~June 1, 2023~~
2 SEPTEMBER 1, 2023, and each ~~June 1~~ SEPTEMBER 1 thereafter, each
3 health-care facility shall report to the state department data that the state
4 department determines is necessary to evaluate compliance across race,
5 ethnicity, age, and primary-language-spoken patient groups with the
6 screening, discounted care, payment plan, and collections practices
7 required pursuant to this part 5. If a health-care facility is not capable of
8 disaggregating the data required pursuant to this subsection (1) by race,
9 ethnicity, age, and primary language spoken, the health-care facility shall
10 report to the state department the steps the facility is taking to improve
11 race, ethnicity, age, and primary-language-spoken data collection and the
12 date by which the facility will be able to disaggregate the reported data.

13 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 25.5-3-506, **amend**
14 (1) introductory portion as follows:

15 **25.5-3-506. Limitations on collection actions - private**
16 **enforcement.** (1) Beginning ~~June 1, 2022~~ SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, before
17 assigning or selling patient debt to a collection agency, as defined in
18 section 5-16-103 (3)(a), or a debt buyer, as defined in section 5-16-103
19 (8.5), or before pursuing, either directly or indirectly, any permissible
20 extraordinary collection action, as defined in section 6-20-201 (7):

21 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 6-20-203, **amend**
22 (3)(a), (4) introductory portion, and (5) introductory portion as follows:

23 **6-20-203. Limitations on collection actions - definition.**
24 (3) (a) Beginning ~~June 1, 2022~~ SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, at least thirty days
25 before taking any permissible extraordinary collection action, a medical
26 creditor, as defined in section 6-20-201 (6)(a), collecting on a debt for
27 hospital services shall notify the patient of potential collection actions and

1 shall include with the notice a statement developed by the department of
2 health care policy and financing that explains the availability of
3 discounted care for qualified individuals and how to apply for such care.

4 (4) Beginning ~~June 1, 2022~~ SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, if a medical
5 creditor collecting on a debt for hospital services bills or initiates
6 collection activities and it is later determined that the patient should have
7 been screened pursuant to section 25.5-3-503 and is determined to be a
8 qualified patient, as defined in section 25.5-3-501 (5), or it is determined
9 that the patient's bill is eligible for reimbursement through a public
10 health-care coverage program or the Colorado indigent care program, the
11 medical creditor shall:

12 (5) Beginning ~~June 1, 2022~~ SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, a medical
13 creditor collecting on a debt for hospital services shall not sell a medical
14 debt to another party unless, prior to the sale, the medical debt seller has
15 entered into a legally binding written agreement with the medical debt
16 buyer of the debt pursuant to which:

17 **SECTION 7. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
18 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
19 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.