



To: Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee

From: Travis R. Oller, DC
Executive Director
Kansas Chiropractic Association

Date: January 29, 2020

Subject: SB 281; Enacting the healthcare price disclosure act

Proponent Testimony

Chairman Olson and other members of this committee thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of SB 281; enacting the healthcare price disclosure act.

I represent the Kansas Chiropractic Association and more than 1,100 licensed Doctors of Chiropractic in Kansas who work hard to deliver safe, effective, and affordable care to the citizens of Kansas.

We feel that SB 281 is an important piece of the puzzle in addressing rising healthcare costs. In our current system, patients must think and act as consumers of healthcare. Consumers are usually very cost conscious, but patients frequently are not. SB 281 will give patients knowledge of the costs of care of which they cannot currently easily access. This improves the patient's ability to locate the right services at the most agreeable price.

We would recommend one simple amendment to this bill. Section 1 (c) states: "Such services may be identified by a common procedure terminology code or by a plain language description." We recommend changing this to state: "Such services ***shall*** be identified by a common procedure terminology code ***and*** by a plain language description."

This simple change will make it easier for patients to compare procedures and prices from a variety of providers and/or provider types.

We ask that the Senate Federal and State Affairs Committee recommend SB 281 favorable for passage with changes.

Travis R. Oller, DC
Executive Director
Kansas Chiropractic Association

SENATE BILL No. 281

By Committee on Federal and State Affairs

1-21

1 AN ACT concerning health and healthcare; enacting the healthcare price
2 disclosure act; relating to healthcare services; facilities; prices; public
3 disclosure thereof.

4
5 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

6 Section 1. (a) This section shall be known and may be cited as the
7 healthcare price disclosure act.

8 (b) As used in this section:

9 (1) "Direct pay price" means the price that will be charged for a
10 lawful healthcare service if the service is paid without a public or private
11 third party, not including an employer, paying for any portion of the
12 service.

13 (2) "Healthcare facility" means a facility: (A) Where healthcare
14 services are provided by or at the direction of a healthcare professional;
15 and (B) that is licensed by the department of health and environment.

16 (3) "Healthcare professional" means a person licensed by the state
17 board of healing arts or the board of nursing.

18 (c) A healthcare professional shall make available to the public, upon
19 request, in a single document the direct pay price for at least the 25 most
20 common services provided by the healthcare professional. Such services
21 may be identified by a common procedural terminology code or by a plain
22 language description. The document shall be updated at least annually.
23 Such direct pay price shall be based on the standard diagnosis for the
24 service, not including any complications or exceptional treatment.

25 (d) (1) A healthcare facility shall make available to the public, upon
26 request, in a single document the direct pay price for at least the 50 most
27 common diagnosis-related group codes, if applicable, used by the facility
28 and at least the 50 most common outpatient service codes, if applicable,
29 used by the facility. The document shall be updated at least annually. Such
30 direct pay price shall be based on the standard diagnosis for the service,
31 not including any complications or exceptional treatment.

32 (2) A healthcare facility shall not be required to report the direct pay
33 prices made available under this subsection to the department of health and
34 environment for review or filing as a prerequisite to operation or licensure.
35 This subsection does not authorize the department of health and
36 environment to approve, disapprove or limit a healthcare facility's direct

Such services ~~may~~ **shall** be identified by a common
procedure terminology code ~~or~~ **and** by a plain
language description.