

House Health & Insurance

04/13/2022 01:30 PM

HB22-1285 Prohibit Collection Hospital Not Disclosing Prices

Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Julie Reiskin For Colorado Cross-Disability Coal	Madame Chair and Members of the Committee The Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition supports the bill wholeheartedly. All Coloradans, or anyone who uses health care in our state should have the right to see where the money is going and to know what we are being charged for as we pay bills. This is important whether or not you are paying privately, using insurance, or using Medicaid or Medicare. Please support this solid piece of legislation.



April 13, 2022

To the Honorable Chair Lontine and House Health and Insurance Committee Members:

I write to you today in support of H.B. 22-1285, which would prohibit a hospital, or entity collecting on behalf of a hospital, from initiating or pursuing collection actions against a patient for debt incurred by the patient on a date of service when the hospital was not in compliance with federal hospital price transparency laws.

As more and more states seek to align their laws with the new federal rules regarding price transparency and consumer protection, Sedera believes that H.B. 22-1285 is a step in the right direction, and appreciates the effort to empower Colorado consumers and encourage clarity in healthcare pricing.

As this bill demonstrates, healthcare price transparency is not a partisan issue, and is vital for consumers to be able to make informed decisions. As direct pay patients, price transparency is of great importance to Sedera members. Sedera strives to educate and empower its members to choose healthcare professionals that offer the best quality for the best price, for both the health of the individual, as well as the community.

As the bill clearly explains, price transparency is a win for everyone. The State of Colorado benefits as a purchaser for the many on state-funded healthcare, Colorado business owners benefit from being able to offer their employees affordable health care options, and individual consumers benefit in the form of reduced spending in one of the most expensive healthcare states in the nation.

Sedera appreciates Colorado's continued efforts to improve the regulatory landscape for healthcare consumers. We remain committed to our desire to work collaboratively with lawmakers and regulators to achieve our shared goals of reducing and eliminating medical debt, while increasing price transparency, access to affordable care, and consumer protection.

Sincerely,

Jenny Aghamalian, Chief Strategy Officer