



Representative Ivy Spohnholz

House Health & Social Services Committee Chair

Serving House District 16: College Gate, Russian Jack, Nunaka Valley, & Reflection Lake

Committee Member: Education, Energy, Military & Veterans Affairs, Legislative Budget & Audit

Sectional Analysis

House Bill 123

"An Act relating to disclosure of health care services and price information; and providing for an effective date."

Section 1

AS 18.15.360(a) authorizes the Department of Health and Social Services to collect, analyze, and maintain databases of information related to health care services and price information collected under AS 18.23.400.

Section 2

AS 18.23.400 is a new section that mandates the disclosure and reporting of health care services and price information.

Subsection (a) (p. 2, lines 7-11) states that health care providers will compile a list of the 25 most commonly performed health care services once a year by January 31st.

Subsection (b) (p. 2, lines 12-16) states that health care facilities will compile a list of the 50 most commonly performed health care services once a year by January 31st.

Subsection (c) (p. 2, lines 17-25) states that both the health care provider and health care facility will submit the list to the Department of Health and Social Services, and publish the list in a public area and on their website, if they have one.

Subsection (d) (p. 2, lines 26-29) states that the health care facility may include statement with their price list that the undiscounted prices may be higher or lower than the amount the individual will pay for their health care service.

Subsection (e) (p. 2, line 30, p. 3, lines 1-3) states that the Department of Health and Social Services will then gather the compiled lists from the health care providers and facilities and post the information on the Department of Health and Social Services website. The information will include the name and location of the health care providers and facilities. This will be updated annually into the department's database.

Subsection (f) (p. 3, lines 4-8) states that if a health care provider or health care facility has fewer than 25 health care services or fewer than 50 health care services performed, the provider or

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facility will compile a list of all of the health care services and procedures performed by the provider or facility.

Subsection (g) (p. 3, lines 9-15) states that if the health care provider or health care facility fails to comply there will be a civil penalty. The penalty for health care providers will be \$50 a day after March 31st up to \$2,500. The person penalized will be entitled to a hearing conducted by the office of administrative hearings.

Subsection (h) (p. 3, lines 16-31, p. 4, lines 1-21) goes over the definitions for department, health care facility, which excludes the Alaska Pioneers' Home and the Alaska Veterans' Home, an assisted living home, a long-term care nursing facility licensed by the department, a facility operated by an Alaska tribal health organization, and a hospital operated by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, the United States Department of Defense, or any other federal institution. Health care provider and health care service are also defined, as well as undiscounted price, recipient, and third party.

Section 3

This bill will take effect on January 1, 2018.

As a preliminary matter, note that a sectional summary of a bill should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill -- the bill itself is the best statement of its contents.