

A bill for an act
relating to health; regulating medical debt information; proposing coding for new
law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 325E.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. **[325E.45] MINNESOTA MEDICAL PRIVACY PROTECTION ACT.**

Subdivision 1. **Citation.** This section may be cited as the "Minnesota Medical
Privacy Protection Act."

Subd. 2. **Definitions.** For the purposes of this section, the terms defined in this
subdivision have the meanings given them.

(a) "Health care provider" has the meaning given in section 62J.03, subdivision 8.

(b) "Medical debt information" means any information relating to the payment
history or indebtedness of a patient regarding health care services, products, or devices
provided by a health care provider to a patient.

Subd. 3. **Prohibited conduct.** A health care provider shall not disclose an individual
patient's financial or medical debt information to another entity.

A health care provider shall not obtain or use information from any entity that
gathers, maintains, evaluates, or distributes individual patient financial or debt information
until after health care services, products, or devices have been provided by the health
care provider to the patient.

Subd. 4. **General exclusions.** Nothing in this section prevents a health care
provider from sharing an individual patient's financial or medical debt information with
the patient; the patient's insurer; the patient's authorized third-party debt management
services provider as defined in section 332A.02; a third-party debt collector as defined in

H.F. No. 3610, as introduced - 2007-2008th Legislative Session (2007-2008)

2.1 section 332.31, that the health care provider has contracted to collect the patient's medical
2.2 debt; or the state or federal government as required by law.

2.3 Subd. 5. **Severability clause.** Each provision of this section is severable.
2.4 Application of any provision in this section to a particular circumstance is severable. If
2.5 any provision of this section or application of a provision of this section is found to be
2.6 contrary to law and unenforceable, the remaining provisions and applications of this
2.7 section shall remain valid and enforceable under section 645.20.

2.8 Subd. 6. **Enforcement.** This section may be enforced pursuant to section 8.31.

2.9 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.