



General Assembly

February Session, 2002

Raised Bill No. 5623

LCO No. 2061

Referred to Committee on General Law

Introduced by:
(GL)

AN ACT CONCERNING PATIENT ACCESS TO HOSPITAL BILLS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 19a-509 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2002*):

3 (a) All hospitals and all nursing homes shall include on their
4 admission forms a question as to whether a person is a veteran or the
5 spouse of a veteran. All hospitals shall include on their admission
6 forms a conspicuous notice that the patient may, upon request, receive
7 a copy of the hospital charges related to the patient. Such admission
8 forms shall also include a conspicuous notice specifying the name and
9 contact information of a person who the patient may contact to request
10 a copy of the hospital charges related to the patient.

11 (b) All hospitals shall include in their bills to patients, and to third
12 party payors unless previously furnished, an explanation of any items
13 identified by any code or by initials. Upon request by a patient, a
14 hospital shall provide such patient with an itemized bill not later than
15 thirty days after the date of such request. Such itemized bill shall
16 identify, in plain language, each individual service, supply or

17 medication provided to the patient by the hospital and the specific
18 charge for such service, supply or medication.

19 (c) No nursing home may bill a patient or third party payor an
20 amount for telephone service, community antenna television service or
21 other telecommunications service, which amount includes a surcharge
22 or administrative fee or which otherwise exceeds the amount paid by
23 the nursing home to provide such service.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	October 1, 2002

Statement of Purpose:

To allow patients to obtain a copy of their hospital bills upon request and to require hospitals to notify patients of that right.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]