



General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 5356

February Session, 2016

LCO No. 1430



Referred to Committee on VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Introduced by:
(VA)

AN ACT CONCERNING VETERANS' HEALTH RECORDS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 20-7c of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (d) Upon a written request of a patient, a patient's attorney or
5 authorized representative, or pursuant to a written authorization, a
6 provider, except as provided in section 4-194, shall furnish to the
7 person making such request a copy of the patient's health record,
8 including but not limited to, bills, x-rays and copies of laboratory
9 reports, contact lens specifications based on examinations and final
10 contact lens fittings given within the preceding three months or such
11 longer period of time as determined by the provider but no longer
12 than six months, records of prescriptions and other technical
13 information used in assessing the patient's health condition. No
14 provider shall refuse to return to a patient original records or copies of
15 records that the patient has brought to the provider from another
16 provider. When returning records to a patient, a provider may retain

17 copies of such records for the provider's file, provided such provider
18 does not charge the patient for the costs incurred in copying such
19 records. No provider shall charge more than sixty-five cents per page,
20 including any research fees, handling fees or related costs, and the cost
21 of first class postage, if applicable, for furnishing a health record
22 pursuant to this subsection, except such provider may charge a patient
23 the amount necessary to cover the cost of materials for furnishing a
24 copy of an x-ray, provided no such charge shall be made for furnishing
25 a health record or part thereof to a patient, a patient's attorney or
26 authorized representative if the record or part thereof is necessary for
27 the purpose of supporting a claim or appeal under any provision of the
28 Social Security Act, Title 38 of the United States Code or chapter 506
29 and the request is accompanied by documentation of the claim or
30 appeal. A provider shall furnish a health record requested pursuant to
31 this section within thirty days of the request. No health care provider,
32 who has purchased or assumed the practice of a provider who is
33 retiring or deceased, may refuse to return original records or copied
34 records to a patient who decides not to seek care from the successor
35 provider. When returning records to a patient who has decided not to
36 seek care from a successor provider, such provider may not charge a
37 patient for costs incurred in copying the records of the retired or
38 deceased provider.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	20-7c(d)

VA *Joint Favorable*