



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 360

February Session, 2022

Senate Bill No. 412

Senate, April 6, 2022

The Committee on Insurance and Real Estate reported through SEN. LESSER of the 9th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT PROHIBITING HOSPITALS FROM CHARGING FACILITY FEES FOR TELEHEALTH SERVICES.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (h) of section 19a-906 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (h) No telehealth provider or hospital shall charge a facility fee for
5 telehealth services. Such prohibition shall apply to hospital telehealth
6 services whether provided on-campus or otherwise. For purposes of this
7 subsection, "hospital" has the same meaning as provided in section 19a-
8 490 and "campus" has the same meaning as provided in section 19a-
9 508c.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	19a-906(h)
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INS *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24
Office of the State Comptroller	GF - Potential Savings	See Below	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24
Various Municipalities	Potential Savings	See Below	See Below	See Below

Explanation

The bill, which prohibits hospitals from charging facility fees for telehealth services, would result in savings to the state employee and retiree health plans as well as municipalities, beginning in FY 22, to the degree such fees are currently charged.

The UConn Health Center's revenues are not impacted because it does not charge facility fees for telehealth services to commercial health plans or to Medicaid. The health center only does so to Medicare and Medicare Advantage plans, as permitted by federal regulations, and this practice is unaffected by the bill.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation in facility fees.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 412*****AN ACT PROHIBITING HOSPITALS FROM CHARGING FACILITY FEES FOR TELEHEALTH SERVICES.*****SUMMARY**

This bill prohibits hospitals from charging facility fees for telehealth services, whether those services are provided on or off the hospital campus.

By law, a “facility fee” is a fee a hospital charges or bills for outpatient services provided in a hospital-based facility to compensate the hospital for its operational expenses. It is separate and distinct from a professional fee for medical services (CGS § 19a-508c).

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Insurance and Real Estate Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 17 Nay 0 (03/22/2022)