

Subject Costs for patient health records

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Overview

The amounts a health care provider may charge for copies of patient health records are governed by state law. A provider cannot charge a patient a fee for a copy of the patient's health record so the patient can review the patient's own medical care. For requests for health records for other purposes, statute specifies amounts providers may charge for paper copies and electronic copies of health records, for time spent retrieving and copying records, for reproducing x-rays, and maximum amounts providers may charge for requests of various lengths. This bill modifies the amounts providers may charge for copies of patient health records.

Summary

| Section | Description |
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| 1 | Cost. |
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Amends § 144.292, subd. 6. Modifies the amounts health care providers may charge to retrieve or reproduce patient health records. In para. (a), clarifies that a provider cannot charge a fee to provide a patient with a copy of the patient's health record for the patient's own purposes of reviewing current medical care.

In para. (b), deletes fees that may be charged for paper copies of health records and for electronic copies of health records, and instead sets fee amounts for records no older than three years from the date of the request and for records older than three years. Also changes the fees charged for x-rays and other imaging.

In para. (c), deletes the maximum amounts that may be charged for copies of records of various lengths, and changes the maximum amounts that may be charged for communicating there are no records available and for any request.

A new para. (d) allows a provider to require prepayment of the flat fee before the provider retrieves or reproduces a patient's health records.

| Section | Description |
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A new para. (e) specifies the maximum charges in paras. (b) and (c) are in effect for calendar year 2026 and must be adjusted each subsequent year by an amount that reflects the change, as compared with the previous year, in the Consumer Price Index.

In para. (f), specifies a provider may not charge more than \$10 for records provided if the records are requested to appeal a denial of Social Security disability income or Social Security disability benefits (under current law a provider is permitted to charge \$10 for records for this purpose).



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