

Kansas Healing Arts Act—Anatomic Pathology Billing; Institutional Licenses; Immunity from Civil Liability; Senate Sub. for HB 2027

Senate Sub. for HB 2027 makes several amendments to the Kansas Healing Arts Act.

The bill allows a physician providing services to a patient pursuant to a medical retainer agreement to bill for anatomic pathology services when the patient's bill meets certain specifications. The patient's bill for such services must identify the laboratory or physician that performed the services, disclose in writing to the patient the actual amount charged by the physician or laboratory that performed the service, and be consistent with rules and regulations adopted by the State Board of Healing Arts for appropriate billing standards applicable to such services when furnished under the agreement.

The bill also amends a statute governing institutional licenses and restrictions placed on practice privileges of these license holders. The bill reinserts language removed in 2014 to allow for reinstatement of an institutional license of an individual who was issued an institutional license prior to May 9, 1997, and who is providing mental health services under a written protocol with a person who holds a Kansas license to practice medicine and surgery other than an institutional license.

Finally, the bill amends the law regarding immunity from liability in civil actions for persons reporting, communicating, and investigating (reporting) certain information concerning alleged malpractice incidents. The bill provides immunity to a person reporting an alleged malpractice incident from civil liability that may otherwise be incurred in an action resulting from reporting such information and requires a court to allow the person reporting, whom the court finds to have reported in good faith, a reasonable amount for attorney's fees and expenses incurred in defending a civil action.