



Support HB 3848

Prohibits Directly Billing Sexual Assault Survivors for Healthcare Related to the Assault

Status: House – Second Reading

Sponsors: Representative Mussman (D-56); Wallace (D-67); Tabares (D-21);
Moylan (D-55); Kifowit (D-84); Walsh (D-86); Zalewski (D-23); Fine (D-17);
D’Amico (D-15); Jones (D-29); Riley (D-38)

Why is This Change Needed?

- Sexual assault survivors who go to the hospital for healthcare related to a sexual assault should NEVER receive a bill under state and federal law.
- Sexual assault survivors do sometimes receive bills for their healthcare, and some of those bills end up in collections.
- Bills from hospitals and other healthcare providers cause a great deal of unnecessary additional stress and trauma for survivors.

How Will This Bill Prevent Billing Survivors for Emergency Treatment?

- Amends the Sexual Assault Survivors Emergency Treatment Act (SASETA).
- Creates the Illinois Sexual Assault Emergency Treatment Program Fund.
- Prohibits any hospital, healthcare professional, ambulance provider, laboratory, or pharmacy that provides services to a sexual assault survivor from billing that survivor.
- Such providers must seek payment from the survivor’s insurance company, Medicaid, or the Illinois Sexual Assault Emergency Treatment Program.
- Such providers may not seek reimbursement for any uncovered expenses (e.g., insurance co-pays or deductibles) from the survivor.

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How Will HB 3848 Prevent Billing Sexual Assault Survivors?

- Hospitals and healthcare professionals that provide services to sexual assault survivors must:
 - provide each eligible survivor with a voucher for follow-up healthcare related to the sexual assault;
 - provide each survivor with a written statement of her rights and a phone number to call at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General, Crime Victim Services Division, if the survivor receives a bill;
 - develop a billing protocol that ensures the provider will not bill a survivor, take any action that would have an adverse effect on the survivors' credit, or turn a survivor's bill over to collections;
 - refrain from communicating with, harassing, or intimidating the survivor for payment of services; and
 - provide training for anyone who prepares bills for healthcare or forensic services related to sexual assault.
- The Office of the Attorney General shall review and approve proposed billing protocols.
- The Office of the Attorney General may seek civil fines when a hospital, health care professional, ambulance provider, laboratory or pharmacy knowingly violates the law by billing the victim, harassing the victim for payment, or turning over a bill to collections.