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## Health Care & Wellness Committee

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### HB 2588

**Brief Description:** Providing patients notice of facility fees charged by hospitals and ambulatory surgical facilities.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Caldier, Appleton, Cody, Wylie and Kloba.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Brief Summary of Bill</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Requires patient notification of facility fees charged by hospitals or ambulatory surgical facilities.</li></ul>
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**Hearing Date:** 1/23/18

**Staff:** Jim Morishima (786-7191).

**Background:**

Upon a patient's request, a hospital must provide a patient with an estimate of the fees and charges related to a specific service, visit, or stay. A provider-based clinic that charges a facility fee must notify a patient prior to providing non-emergency services. The notice must indicate that the clinic is licensed as part of the hospital and that the patient may receive a separate charge or billing for the facility component, which may result in higher out-of-pocket expense.

**Summary of Bill:**

Prior to the delivery of non-emergency outpatient services, a hospital or an ambulatory surgical facility that charges a facility fee must notify a patient:

- that the hospital or ambulatory surgical facility charges a facility fee;
- the amount of the fee;
- that the patient may be able to obtain the same non-emergency outpatient services at another facility that does not charge a facility fee, such as a clinic or an ambulatory surgical facility; and
- that the patient should ask the other facility whether it charges a facility fee.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on January 18, 2018.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.