

State Corporation Commission

2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB663

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron: McPike

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses

4. Title: Health benefit plan networks; air ambulance providers; duties of health care providers.

5. Summary: Requires each hospital to establish a protocol requiring that, before a health care provider arranges for air medical transportation services for a patient who does not have an emergency medical condition, the hospital provide the patient or his authorized representative with written or electronic notice that the patient (i) may have a choice of transportation by an air medical transportation provider or medically appropriate ground transportation by an emergency medical services provider and (ii) will be responsible for charges incurred for such transportation in the event that the provider is not a contracted network provider of the patient's health insurance carrier or such charges are not otherwise covered in full or in part by the patient's health insurance plan. These provisions become effective on March 1, 2019. Directs the Office of Emergency Medical Services no later than January 1, 2019 to develop a mechanism to disclose to a patient, prior to services provided by an out of network air transport provider, a good faith estimate of the range of typical charges for out of network air transport services provided in that geographic area.

6. Budget amendment necessary: No

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: No fiscal impact on the State Corporation Commission

8. Fiscal Implications: None on the State Corporation Commission

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: State Corporation Commission Bureau of Insurance; Virginia Department of Health

10. Technical amendment necessary: No

11. Other comments: 2017 House Bill 1728 directed the Virginia Department of Health to review the rules and regulations governing the use of air transportation services. Senate Bill 663 is now identical to House Bill 778.

Date: 02/28/18/V. Tompkins