

Senate HELP Committee and House Energy and Commerce Committee Surprise Billing Proposals

August 7, 2019

	Lower Health Care Costs Act (Senate HELP Committee)	No Surprises Act (House Energy and Commerce Committee)
Billing for emergency care	Prohibits balance billing for all emergency care. Patients would be responsible for the in-network cost-sharing amount.	Prohibits balance billing for all emergency care. Patients would be responsible for the in-network cost-sharing amount.
Billing for non-emergency care	Prohibits balance billing for ancillary out-of-network services or out-of-network diagnostic services delivered at in-network facilities.	Patients must be provided with written and oral notice of provider status and potential charges. If patients do not sign a consent form, they cannot be balance billed.
Payment methodology	Providers are reimbursed based on the local median in-network rate.	Providers are reimbursed based on the local median in-network rate. Providers or payers could appeal that amount for bills over \$1,250 and enter into arbitration.
Air ambulance	Prohibits balance billing for out-of-network air ambulance services. Air ambulance providers would be paid the local median in-network rate.	Requires air ambulance providers to submit specific information and cost data to HHS on an annual basis.