

1.1 Senator moves to amend S.F. No. 1293 as follows:

1.2 Page 1, after line 13, insert:

1.3 "Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 176.135, is amended by adding a subdivision
1.4 to read:

1.5 **Subd. 9. Designated contact person and required training related to submission**
1.6 **and payment of medical bills.** (a) For purposes of this subdivision:

1.7 (1) "clearinghouse" means a health care clearinghouse as defined in section 62J.51,
1.8 subdivision 11a, that receives or transmits workers' compensation electronic transactions
1.9 as described in section 62J.536;

1.10 (2) "department" means the Department of Labor and Industry;

1.11 (3) "hospital" means a hospital licensed in this state;

1.12 (4) "payer" means:

1.13 (i) a workers' compensation insurer;

1.14 (ii) an employer, or group of employers, authorized to self-insure for workers'
1.15 compensation liability; and

1.16 (iii) a third-party administrator licensed by the department of commerce under section
1.17 60A.23, subdivision 8, to pay or review workers' compensation medical bills under this
1.18 chapter; and

1.19 (5) "submission or payment of medical bills" includes the submission, transmission,
1.20 receipt, acceptance, response, adjustment, and payment of medical bills under this chapter.

1.21 (b) Effective November 1, 2017, each payer, hospital, and clearinghouse must provide
1.22 the department with the name and contact information of a designated employee to answer
1.23 inquiries related to the submission or payment of medical bills. Payers, hospitals, and
1.24 clearinghouses must provide the department with the name of a new designated employee
1.25 within 14 days after the previously designated employee is no longer employed or becomes
1.26 unavailable for more than 30 days. The name and contact information of the designated
1.27 employee must be provided on forms and at intervals prescribed by the department. The
1.28 department must post a directory of the designated employees on the department's Web site.

1.29 (c) The designated employee under paragraph (b) must:

1.30 (1) complete training, provided by the department, about submission or payment of
1.31 medical bills; and

2.1 (2) respond within 30 days to written department inquiries related to submission or
2.2 payment of medical bills.

2.3 The training requirement in clause (1) does not apply to a payer that has not received any
2.4 workers' compensation medical bills in the 12 months before the training becomes available.

2.5 (d) The commissioner may assess penalties, payable to the assigned risk safety account,
2.6 against payers, hospitals, and clearinghouses for violation of this subdivision as provided
2.7 in clauses (1) to (3):

2.8 (1) for failure to comply with the requirements in paragraph (b), the commissioner may
2.9 assess a penalty of \$50 for each day of noncompliance after the department has provided
2.10 the noncompliant payer, clearinghouse, or hospital with a 30-day written warning;

2.11 (2) for failure of the designated employee to complete training under paragraph (c),
2.12 clause (1), within 90 days after the department has notified a payer, clearinghouse, or
2.13 hospital's designated employee that required training is available, the commissioner may
2.14 assess a penalty of \$3,000;

2.15 (3) for failure to respond within 30 days to a department inquiry related to submission
2.16 or payment of medical bills under paragraph (c), clause (2), the commissioner may assess
2.17 a penalty of \$3,000. The commissioner shall not assess a penalty under both this clause and
2.18 section 176.194, subdivision 3, clause (6), for failure to respond to the same department
2.19 inquiry.

2.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective October 1, 2017."

2.21 Renumber the sections in sequence

2.22 Correct the title numbers accordingly