

**Bill Summary**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>SB 732</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>FS</b>
<b>Request No.:</b>	<b>3616</b>
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**Bill Analysis**

SB 732 prohibits any hospital that fails to comply with hospital price transparency laws prior to the date items or services are purchased from or provided to a patient by the hospital from initiating or pursuing a collection action against the patient or patient guarantor for a debt owed for the items or services. Critical access hospitals shall also be subject to this provision. The measure authorizes patients to file suit to determine if the hospital was materially out of compliance with the hospital price transparency laws and rules and regulations on the date of service and if the noncompliance is related to the items or services. If the court determines the hospital was out of compliance, the court shall order the hospital to refund the services as well as to pay reasonable attorney's fees and court costs. Any hospital seeking to collect debt shall not report a patient or patient guarantor to a consumer reporting agency unless the hospital can show it has sought collection of debt no less than once per month for 6 months. Notice of the attempt to collect the debt on the 6<sup>th</sup> month shall be provided using certified mail.

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