

March 19, 2009

S 701. INCREASE FEE/MEDICAL RECORDS COPYING. Filed 3/19/09. *TO INCREASE THE MINIMUM FEE FOR COPYING AND SEARCHING MEDICAL RECORDS.*

Effective January 1, 2009, amends GS 90-411 to increase fees that may be charged for searching, handling, and copying medical records. The fee for requests by authorized representatives is increased from \$0.75 to \$0.90 per page for the first 25 pages, from \$0.50 to \$0.75 for pages 26 through 100, and a minimum fee from \$10 to \$16 (increased to \$18 effective January 1, 2010). Patients who request records on their own behalf and their personal representatives may only be charged the rates permitted in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. Patients and their physicians who request records for continuing care may not be charged for such requests. Adds provision that reasonable professional fees may also be charged for a narrative summary of the records prepared pursuant to subpoena and pursuant to requests by attorneys and insurers. Allows charges for actual postage. Beginning in January 1, 2012, provides all amounts charged must be annually increased or decreased by the average percentage change in the Consumer Price Index in the preceding year.

Intro. by Rand.

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