- 1 HB228
- 2 163492-4
- 3 By Representative Wadsworth
- 4 RFD: Judiciary
- 5 First Read: 10-MAR-15

1	ENGROSSED
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3	
4	A BILL
5	TO BE ENTITLED
6	AN ACT
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8	To amend Sections 12-21-5, 12-21-6, and 12-21-7,
9	Code of Alabama 1975, relating to reproducing medical records;
10	to allow a patient to request his or her medical records from
11	any, including itemization of charges, medical producers and
12	allow the custodian of those records to process the request
13	and deliver the records and itemization of charges in the same
14	manner as requests for hospital records are processed.
15	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
16	Section 1. Sections 12-21-5, 12-21-6, and 12-21-7,
17	Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:
18	"§12-21-5.
19	"(a) The term medical provider, as used in this
20	section and Sections 12-21-6 and 12-21-7, means a physician,
21	<u>dentist, podiatrist, pharmacist, optometrist, psychologist,</u>
22	<u>clinical social worker,</u> advanced nurse practitioner certified
23	registered nurse practitioner, certified nurse midwife,
24	certified registered nurse anesthetist, clinical nurse
25	<u>specialist, physician assistant</u> , registered optician,
26	physical therapist, chiropractor, hospital, medical clinic,
27	rehabilitation center, home health agency, pharmacy, hospital,

or any other person or facility that provides medical services
 to a person.

"(b) When the original would be admissible in any 3 4 case or proceeding in a court in the state, a certified copy of the hospital records of any hospital a medical provider 5 6 organized or operated under or pursuant to the laws of 7 Alabama, including itemization of charges as set forth in subsection (c) and records of admission, medical, hospital, 8 occupational, disease, injury and disability histories, 9 10 temperature and other charts, X rays and written interpretations thereof, pictures, photographs, files, written 11 12 orders, directions, findings and reports and interpretations of physicians, doctors, surgeons, pathologists, radiologists, 13 14 specialists, dentists, technicians and nurses, as well as of 15 all employees of such hospital the medical provider, forming a part of such hospital the records of a medical provider, as to 16 17 the health, condition, state, injuries, sickness, disease, mental, physical and nervous disorders, duration and character 18 of disabilities, diagnosis, prognosis, progress, wounds, cuts, 19 contusions, lacerations, breaks, loss of blood, incisions, 20 21 operations, injuries, examinations, tests, transfusions, 22 hospitalization and duration thereof, medication, medicines, 23 supplies, treatment and care and the cost, expenses, fees and 24 charges therefor and thereof, a part of, or shown on or in, 25 said hospital records of the medical provider of any patient 26 in said hospital of the medical provider, when certified and 27 affirmed by the custodian of said hospital the medical

1 provider records of the medical provider as provided in 2 Section 12-21-7, shall be admissible in evidence, without further proof in any court in the state where admissible, if 3 4 and when said hospital the records of the medical provider 5 were made and kept in the usual and regular course of business of said hospital and it was in the regular course of business 6 7 of said hospital the medical provider to make and keep said the records and that said the records were made at the time of 8 9 such the acts, transactions, occurrences, or events therein referred to occurred or arose or were made, or within a 10 reasonable time thereafter. 11

12 <u>"(c) The itemization of charges included in</u> 13 <u>subsection (b) shall indicate all amounts paid and those</u> 14 <u>amounts that have been satisfied or otherwise written off or</u> 15 <u>reduced.</u>

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"§12-21-6.

17 "(a) A certified copy of said hospital the records of the medical provider may be procured by any litigant in any 18 court of competent jurisdiction in the state by subpoena duces 19 20 tecum, and when any such a subpoena duces tecum is issued for 21 said hospital the records of the medical provider, the 22 custodian of said hospital the records of the medical provider 23 shall prepare a copy of said hospital the records of the 24 medical provider as provided in this subsection and securely 25 seal the same in an envelope or other container and date and 26 fill out and sign a certificate in substantially the form 27 provided in Section 12-21-7 and place on, or securely fasten

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1 said the certificate to the outside of, said the envelope or 2 container in which said the copy of said hospital the records of the medical provider are placed and deliver the same to the 3 4 clerk or register of the court hearing, or to hear or to try, the case or proceeding in which the records are sought, and he 5 6 shall not otherwise be required to appear in court unless 7 thereafter ordered to do so by the court. The copy of the hospital records of the medical provider shall not be open to 8 inspection or copy by other persons than the parties to the 9 10 case or proceeding and their attorneys until ordered published by the court trying the case at the time of the trial. When so 11 12 prepared and certified, the copy of said hospital the records 13 of the medical provider shall be admissible in evidence in any 14 court in the state, if and when admissible, in prima facie 15 proof of the facts therein shown just as if otherwise verified and just as if the copy were the original. The copy of the 16 17 hospital records of the medical provider may be photostated, photographed or made by microphotographic plate or film, or 18 otherwise made, so long as clear and easily legible. All the 19 20 circumstances of the making of such hospital the records of 21 the medical provider, including lack of personal knowledge of 22 the entrant or maker of such hospital the records of the 23 medical provider, may otherwise be shown to affect the weight 24 of such hospital the records of the medical provider, but this shall not affect their admissibility. 25

26 "(b) Repealed by Acts 1994, No. 94-609, p. 1124, §3.
27 "§12-21-7.

"The certificate of the custodian of the hospital records <u>of the medical provider</u> provided for in Sections 12-21-5 and 12-21-6 shall show the name of the parties to the case or proceeding and the name of the court to which made, by appropriate caption, and <del>said</del> <u>the</u> certificate shall be in form in substance as follows, to-wit:

7 "I, , hereby certify and affirm in writing that I am \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ Hospital, a hospital medical provider 8 9 organized or operated pursuant to or under the laws of Alabama, located at , Alabama, that I am custodian of the 10 11 hospital records of said hospital the medical provider and 12 that the within copy of said hospital the records of the 13 medical provider are an exact, full, true, and correct copy of 14 said hospital the records of the medical provider pertaining 15 to <u>and that the treatment provided was reasonable and</u> 16 necessary.

If urther certify that I am familiar with and know, and knew when made and charged, the reasonable value and price for the various charges made and shown in said hospital the records pertaining to \_\_\_\_\_ and that said the charges are in my judgment just, reasonable and proper and in keeping with those generally charged in the county and community where said the hospital medical provider is located.

24 "All of which I hereby certify and affirm on this
25 \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, <u>1920</u>."

Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
 first day of the third month following its passage and
 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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3	House of Representatives
4 5 6 7	Read for the first time and re- ferred to the House of Representa- tives committee on Judiciary
8 9 10	Read for the second time and placed on the calendar 3 amendments
11 12 13	Read for the third time and passed as amended 19-MAY-15 Yeas 100, Nays 0, Abstains 1
14 15 16 17	Jeff Woodard Clerk

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