

# **A Bill to outlaw Cost-Shifting to protect the lower income majority from price gouging**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

1   **SECTION 1.**   It is common practice in the medical field to increase the cost of care for  
2                   individuals under specific insurances for the financial benefit of the medical  
3                   institution. The act of cost shifting by medical institutions will hereby be  
4                   declared an illegal practice punishable by fines up to 75 thousand dollars  
5                   per incident, and the complete removal of the institution's medical  
6                   practitioner license upon repeated offense.

7   **SECTION 2.**   Cost shifting shall hereby be defined as the practice of a medical institute  
8                   increasing care prices for patients insured under Medicare, Medicaid or  
9                   applicable private insurance, in order to increase their own profit margins.

10 **SECTION 3.**   The Department of public health will be responsible for developing a  
11                   committee or committees responsible for regulating care prices and  
12                   enforcing the ban on cost shifting. No additional funding will be provided  
13                   by Congress to the department of public health for the implementation or  
14                   oversight of this legislation, and all necessary expenses shall come out of  
15                   the preapproved budget of said department.

16 **SECTION 4.**   This legislation will take effect on 1 January, 2026. All laws in conflict with  
17                   this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

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*Introduced for Congressional Debate by Cedaredge High School.*