

SB 2476 – EMS Surprise Billing

Sen. Zaffirini & Rep. Oliverson

- **Goal of the Legislation:** Texas' Surprise Billing Act and the federal No Surprises Act both failed to cover services performed by out-of-network emergency medical services (EMS) providers.
- **What's new:** This bill adds EMS providers to the state ban on balance billing but takes a different approach to resolving any payment disputes between insurers and ambulance providers.
- **The details:** Under the new law insurers are required to reimburse non-network transport at the rate set by municipalities.
- **But what if there isn't a rate?** In that case insurers are required to reimburse the lesser of the provider's billed charge or 325% of the Medicare rate.
- **Sunset date:** DC lawmakers are working on a federal solution so SB 2476 sunsets in September 2025 in anticipation of a solution that will cover all Texans.
- The prohibition against surprise ambulance billing starts January 1, 2024.