

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2013 and 2014 HB4189

by Rep. Dwight Kay

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

770 ILCS 23/10 820 ILCS 305/5 820 ILCS 305/21

from Ch. 48, par. 138.5 from Ch. 48, par. 138.21

Amends the Health Care Services Lien Act. Deletes language exempting services rendered under the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act or the Workers' Occupational Diseases Act from the types of services which give rise to a health care services lien. Amends the Workers' Compensation Act. Provides that a medical provider may have or claim a lien upon any reward, judgment, or fund out of which the employee might be compensated by a third party, provided that the lien complies with certain billing conditions. Makes a corresponding change.

LRB098 12939 HEP 47445 b

1 AN ACT concerning employment.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 5. The Health Care Services Lien Act is amended by changing Section 10 as follows:
- 6 (770 ILCS 23/10)

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- 7 Sec. 10. Lien created; limitation.
- 8 (a) Every health care professional and health care provider 9 that renders any service in the treatment, care, or maintenance of an injured person, except services rendered under the 10 provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act or the Workers' 11 Occupational Diseases Act, shall have a lien upon all claims 12 and causes of action of the injured person for the amount of 13 14 the health care professional's or health care provider's reasonable charges up to the date of payment of damages to the 15 injured person. The total amount of all liens under this Act, 16 17 however, shall not exceed 40% of the verdict, judgment, award, settlement, or compromise secured by or on behalf of the 18 19 injured person on his or her claim or right of action.
 - (b) The lien shall include a written notice containing the name and address of the injured person, the date of the injury, the name and address of the health care professional or health care provider, and the name of the party alleged to be liable

to make compensation to the injured person for the injuries received. The lien notice shall be served on both the injured person and the party against whom the claim or right of action exists. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, payment in good faith to any person other than the healthcare professional or healthcare provider claiming or asserting such lien prior to the service of such notice of lien shall, to the extent of the payment so made, bar or prevent the creation of an enforceable lien. Service shall be made by registered or certified mail or in person.

- (c) All health care professionals and health care providers holding liens under this Act with respect to a particular injured person shall share proportionate amounts within the statutory limitation set forth in subsection (a). The statutory limitations under this Section may be waived or otherwise reduced only by the lienholder. No individual licensed category of health care professional (such as physicians) or health care provider (such as hospitals) as set forth in Section 5, however, may receive more than one-third of the verdict, judgment, award, settlement, or compromise secured by or on behalf of the injured person on his or her claim or right of action. If the total amount of all liens under this Act meets or exceeds 40% of the verdict, judgment, award, settlement, or compromise, then:
- (1) all the liens of health care professionals shall not exceed 20% of the verdict, judgment, award, settlement,

or compromise; and

(2) all the liens of health care providers shall not exceed 20% of the verdict, judgment, award, settlement, or compromise;

provided, however, that health care services liens shall be satisfied to the extent possible for all health care professionals and health care providers by reallocating the amount unused within the aggregate total limitation of 40% for all health care services liens under this Act; and provided further that the amounts of liens under paragraphs (1) and (2) are subject to the one-third limitation under this subsection.

If the total amount of all liens under this Act meets or exceeds 40% of the verdict, judgment, award, settlement, or compromise, the total amount of all the liens of attorneys under the Attorneys Lien Act shall not exceed 30% of the verdict, judgment, award, settlement, or compromise. If an appeal is taken by any party to a suit based on the claim or cause of action, however, the attorney's lien shall not be affected or limited by the provisions of this Act.

(d) If services furnished by health care professionals and health care providers are billed at one all-inclusive rate, the total reasonable charges for those services shall be reasonably allocated among the health care professionals and health care providers and treated as separate liens for purposes of this Act, including the filing of separate lien notices. For services provided under an all-inclusive rate, the liens of

- 1 health care professionals and health care providers may be
- 2 asserted by the entity that bills the all-inclusive rate.
- 3 (e) Payments under the liens shall be made directly to the
- 4 health care professionals and health care providers. For
- 5 services provided under an all-inclusive rate, payments under
- 6 liens shall be made directly to the entity that bills the
- 7 all-inclusive rate.
- 8 (Source: P.A. 93-51, eff. 7-1-03.)
- 9 Section 10. The Workers' Compensation Act is amended by
- 10 changing Sections 5 and 21 as follows:
- 11 (820 ILCS 305/5) (from Ch. 48, par. 138.5)
- 12 (Text of Section WITHOUT the changes made by P.A. 89-7,
- which has been held unconstitutional)
- 14 Sec. 5. (a) No common law or statutory right to recover
- damages from the employer, his insurer, his broker, any service
- 16 organization retained by the employer, his insurer or his
- 17 broker to provide safety service, advice or recommendations for
- 18 the employer or the agents or employees of any of them for
- injury or death sustained by any employee while engaged in the
- 20 line of his duty as such employee, other than the compensation
- 21 herein provided, is available to any employee who is covered by
- 22 the provisions of this Act, to any one wholly or partially
- dependent upon him, the legal representatives of his estate, or
- any one otherwise entitled to recover damages for such injury.

However, in any action now pending or hereafter begun to enforce a common law or statutory right to recover damages for negligently causing the injury or death of any employee it is not necessary to allege in the complaint that either the employee or the employer or both were not governed by the provisions of this Act or of any similar Act in force in this or any other State.

Any illegally employed minor or his legal representatives shall, except as hereinafter provided, have the right within 6 months after the time of injury or death, or within 6 months after the appointment of a legal representative, whichever shall be later, to file with the Commission a rejection of his right to the benefits under this Act, in which case such illegally employed minor or his legal representatives shall have the right to pursue his or their common law or statutory remedies to recover damages for such injury or death.

No payment of compensation under this Act shall be made to an illegally employed minor, or his legal representatives, unless such payment and the waiver of his right to reject the benefits of this Act has first been approved by the Commission or any member thereof, and if such payment and the waiver of his right of rejection has been so approved such payment is a bar to a subsequent rejection of the provisions of this Act.

(b) Where the injury or death for which compensation is payable under this Act was caused under circumstances creating a legal liability for damages on the part of some person other

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than his employer to pay damages, then legal proceedings may be taken against such other person to recover damages notwithstanding such employer's payment of or liability to pay compensation under this Act. In such case, however, if the action against such other person is brought by the injured employee or his personal representative and judgment is obtained and paid, or settlement is made with such other person, either with or without suit, then from the amount received by such employee or personal representative there shall be paid to the employer the amount of compensation paid or to be paid by him to such employee or personal representative including amounts paid or to be paid pursuant to paragraph (a) of Section 8 of this Act.

Out of any reimbursement received by the employer pursuant to this Section the employer shall pay his pro rata share of all costs and reasonably necessary expenses in connection with such third-party claim, action or suit and where the services of an attorney at law of the employee or dependents have resulted in or substantially contributed to the procurement by suit, settlement or otherwise of the proceeds out of which the employer is reimbursed, then, in the absence of other agreement, the employer shall pay such attorney 25% of the gross amount of such reimbursement.

If the injured employee or his personal representative agrees to receive compensation from the employer or accept from the employer any payment on account of such compensation, or to

institute proceedings to recover the same, the employer may have or claim a lien upon any award, judgment or fund out of which such employee might be compensated from such third party.

A medical provider may have or claim a lien upon any reward, judgment, or fund out of which the employee might be compensated by a third party, provided that the lien complies with subsection (e) of Section 8.2 of this Act.

In such actions brought by the employee or his personal representative, he shall forthwith notify his employer by personal service or registered mail, of such fact and of the name of the court in which the suit is brought, filing proof thereof in the action. The employer may, at any time thereafter join in the action upon his motion so that all orders of court after hearing and judgment shall be made for his protection. No release or settlement of claim for damages by reason of such injury or death, and no satisfaction of judgment in such proceedings shall be valid without the written consent of both employer and employee or his personal representative, except in the case of the employers, such consent is not required where the employer has been fully indemnified or protected by Court order.

In the event the employee or his personal representative fails to institute a proceeding against such third person at any time prior to 3 months before such action would be barred, the employer may in his own name or in the name of the employee, or his personal representative, commence a

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proceeding against such other person for the recovery of damages on account of such injury or death to the employee, and out of any amount recovered the employer shall pay over to the injured employee or his personal representatives all sums collected from such other person by judgment or otherwise in excess of the amount of such compensation paid or to be paid under this Act, including amounts paid or to be paid pursuant to paragraph (a) of Section 8 of this Act, and costs, attorney's fees and reasonable expenses as may be incurred by such employer in making such collection or in enforcing such liability.

12 (Source: P.A. 79-79.)

13 (820 ILCS 305/21) (from Ch. 48, par. 138.21)

Sec. 21. No payment, claim, award or decision under this Act shall be assignable or subject to any lien, attachment or garnishment, or be held liable in any way for any lien, debt, except: (1) penalty or damages, the beneficiary beneficiaries of a deceased employee who was a member or annuitant under Article 14 of the "Illinois Pension Code" may assign any benefits payable under this Act to the State Employees' Retirement System; and (2) a medical provider may claim a lien under the Health Care Services Lien Act. The compensation allowed by any award or decision of the Commission shall be entitled to a preference over the unsecured debts of the employer, wages excepted, contracted after the date of the

1 injury to an employee. A decision or award of the Commission 2 against an employer for compensation under this Act, or a 3 written agreement by an employer to pay such compensation shall, upon the filing of a certified copy of the decision or 5 said agreement, as the case may be, with the recorder of the 6 county, constitute a lien upon all property of the employer within the county, paramount to all other claims or liens, 7 except mortgages, trust deeds, or for wages or taxes. Such 8 9 liens may be enforced in the manner provided for the 10 foreclosure of mortgages under the laws of this State. (Source: P.A. 83-358.)