

UTAH STATE SENATE

UTAH STATE CAPITOL COMPLEX • 320 STATE CAPITOL P.O. BOX 145115 • SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84114-5115 • (801) 538-1035

February 15, 2023

Mr. President,

The Health and Human Services Committee reports a favorable recommendation on **S.B. 195**, MEDICAL DEBT RELIEF, by Senator N. Blouin, with the following amendments:

- 1. Page 1, Lines 9 through 18:
 - 9 This bill requires the Department of Workforce Services to contract with one or more
 - 10 medical debt relief entities for the { purchase } acquisition and {-forgiveness } relief of medical debt.
 - 11 Highlighted Provisions:
 - This bill:
 - 13 ▶ defines terms;
 - reates the Medical Debt Relief Restricted Account;
 - 15 requires the Department of Workforce Services to contract with one or more
 - 16 medical debt relief entities for the { purchase and forgiveness } acquisition and relief of medical debt; and
 - 17 requires the Department of Workforce Services to report to the Health and Human
 - 18 Services Interim Committee on medical debts { forgiven } relieved
- 2. Page 2, Lines 36 through 45:
 - 36 (1) "Creditor" means:
 - 37 (a) a health care provider to whom a medical debt is owed; or
 - 38 (b) a person that has { purchased } acquired a medical debt once owed







to a health care provider.

- 39 (2) "Health care provider" means the same as that term is defined in Section
- 40 78B-3-403.
- 41 (3) "Medical debt" means a Utah resident's debt for goods or services provided by a
- 42 health care provider.
- 43 (4) "Medical debt relief entity" means a nonprofit entity that:
- 44 (a) { purchases | acquires | medical debt from creditors; and
- 45 (b) { forgives } relieves the medical debt.
- 3. Page 3, Lines 60 through 66:
 - 60 (1) Within appropriations by the Legislature from the Medical Debt Relief
 Restricted
 - 61 Account, the department shall contract with one or more medical debt relief entities for the
 - 62 {<u>purchase</u>} <u>acquisition</u> and {<u>forgiveness</u>} <u>relief</u> of medical debt.
 - 63 (2) The department shall report to the Health and Human Services Interim
 Committee
 - 64 <u>in September of each even-numbered year on debts</u> { <u>purchased and forgiven</u> } acquired and relieved <u>under Subsection</u>
 - 65 (1), without disclosing information that could be used to identify individual debtors or
 - 66 creditors.

Respectfully,

Michael S. Kennedy Chair

Voting: 4-0-3

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