



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 102

February Session, 2026

House Bill No. 5388

House of Representatives, March 19, 2026

The Committee on Labor and Public Employees reported through REP. SANCHEZ, E. of the 24th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING PROCESSING FEES FOR MEDICAL RECORDS FOR APPLICATIONS FOR DISABILITY RETIREMENT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 20-7c of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
3 *1, 2026*):

4 (d) Upon a written request of a patient, a patient's attorney or
5 authorized representative, or pursuant to a written authorization, a
6 provider, except as provided in section 4-194, shall furnish to the person
7 making such request a copy of the patient's health record, including but
8 not limited to, bills, x-rays and copies of laboratory reports, contact lens
9 specifications based on examinations and final contact lens fittings
10 given within the preceding three months or such longer period of time
11 as determined by the provider but no longer than six months, records of
12 prescriptions and other technical information used in assessing the
13 patient's health condition. No provider shall refuse to return to a patient

14 original records or copies of records that the patient has brought to the
 15 provider from another provider. When returning records to a patient, a
 16 provider may retain copies of such records for the provider's file,
 17 provided such provider does not charge the patient for the costs
 18 incurred in copying such records. No provider shall charge more than
 19 sixty-five cents per page, including any research fees, handling fees or
 20 related costs, and the cost of first class postage, if applicable, for
 21 furnishing a health record pursuant to this subsection, except such
 22 provider may charge a patient the amount necessary to cover the cost of
 23 materials for furnishing a copy of an x-ray, provided no such charge
 24 shall be made for furnishing a health record or part thereof to a patient,
 25 a patient's attorney or authorized representative if the record or part
 26 thereof is necessary for the purpose of supporting a claim or appeal
 27 under any provision of the Social Security Act or a claim or appeal for
 28 veterans' benefits under any provision of Title 38 of the United States
 29 Code or chapter 506 or application for disability retirement benefits
 30 under the state employees retirement system and the request is
 31 accompanied by documentation of the claim or appeal or application. A
 32 provider shall furnish a health record requested pursuant to this section
 33 within thirty days of the request. No health care provider, who has
 34 purchased or assumed the practice of a provider who is retiring or
 35 deceased, may refuse to return original records or copied records to a
 36 patient who decides not to seek care from the successor provider. When
 37 returning records to a patient who has decided not to seek care from a
 38 successor provider, such provider may not charge a patient for costs
 39 incurred in copying the records of the retired or deceased provider.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2026	20-7c(d)

LAB *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
UConn Health Ctr.	OF - Revenue Loss	Less than 750	Less than 1,000

Note: OF=UConn Health Operating Funds

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a revenue loss of less than \$750 in FY 27 and less than \$1,000 in FY 28 and annually thereafter to the UConn Health Center. It does so by preventing health care providers from charging a fee for copies of medical records requested in relation to an application for state employee disability retirement benefits. The lower revenue loss indicated in FY 27 is due to the bill's 10/1/26 effective date.

UConn Health charges one cent per page for such records and receives about 12 requests per year.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of copies of such medical records requested, and the fees UConn Health charges for those copies.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5388*****AN ACT CONCERNING PROCESSING FEES FOR MEDICAL RECORDS FOR APPLICATIONS FOR DISABILITY RETIREMENT.*****SUMMARY**

This bill prohibits health care service providers from charging a patient for furnishing part or all of the patient's health records to support an application for disability retirement benefits from the state employees retirement system, as long as the records request includes documentation of the application.

Existing law, unchanged by the bill, prohibits providers from charging fees for health records needed for a documented claim or appeal for Social Security or state or federal veterans' benefits.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2026

BACKGROUND***Record Fees***

Unless fees are prohibited, the law allows a health care provider to charge up to 65 cents per page, including any applicable research or handling fees, related costs, and first-class postage, to supply a patient's health record. Patients may also be charged an additional amount to cover the cost of material for a copy of an x-ray.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 9 Nay 4 (03/05/2026)