

SENATOR HALL: Could you elaborate?

SENATOR MATZKE: ..that's not the purpose. Every hospital will have its own schedule of fees...

SENATOR HALL: Sure.

SENATOR MATZKE: ..for services rendered.

SENATOR HALL: Right.

SENATOR MATZKE: But that will be limited to what is usual and customary among other hospitals. So...

SENATOR HALL: Okay.

SENATOR MATZKE: ..if...if you're hospitalized and your bill is 10,000 dollars...

SENATOR HALL: Um-hum.

SENATOR MATZKE: ..if that same service by other hospitals was rendered for 9,000 dollars, they could not file a lien for over 9,000 dollars.

SENATOR HALL: Now do...how do we determine that 9,000 dollars is the usual and customary charge? Is it a...do we take all the hospitals in the area? Do we take all their charges, divide by the number of hospitals and come up with a mean figure that would be the usual and customary, or how do we determine that, that magical figure that's out there?

SENATOR MATZKE: Would be no different than trying to determine what was required by the original language, reasonable value of services. How do you define what's reasonable?

SENATOR HALL: Well, and I would ar... and I appreciate that, but I would argue that they're totally different because I would argue that with your amendment what you're doing potentially is usual and customary charges could be a higher figure than reasonable value of services necessary and if the argument is that.... And I appreciate that response very much and I'll ask other questions but I just want to finish this point, and I appreciate your responding to that question. My argument is, is that usual and customary charges are not necessarily, 'cause