



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1945		DATE: 2/26/2026	
COMMITTEE: Health and Mental Health			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCAT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2026 11:59 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am in Favor of this Bill. This Bill makes sense and provides protections to the Patient from Greedy Insurance Companies.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: CHRIS ROEPE		PHONE NUMBER: 816-294-0497	
REPRESENTING: MO ASSOCIATION OF NURSE ANESTHETISTS		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 205 E. CAPITOL AVE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KATE SIEKER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2026 12:42 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: RACHEL BAUER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-691-5707	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, MISSOURI STATE ORTHOPEDIC ASSOCIATION, MISSOURI GASTROENTEROLOGY SOCIETY		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 113 MADISON ST.			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2026 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: RICHARD MCINTOSH		PHONE NUMBER: 573-287-0078
REPRESENTING: MAWD PATHOLOGY		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 612 EAST CAPITOL AVE		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2026 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: SAMUEL CAUGHRON, MD		PHONE NUMBER: 913-735-9701
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI SOCIETY OF PATHOLOGISTS		TITLE: PATHOLOGIST
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: MO
EMAIL:		ZIP:
ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2026 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: HAMPTON WILLIAMS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-893-4241
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI INSURANCE COALITION		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 220 EAST HIGH STREET, SUITE B		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65616
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2026 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SARAH BERRY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2026 7:20 AM	

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HB 1945 hard-codes reimbursement formulas and billing mechanics into statute, overrides negotiated payment structures, and expands licensure reciprocity in ways that weaken regulatory control. It is structurally unsound and fiscally imprudent.

1. Medicaid Rate-Setting in Statute

The bill mandates that MO HealthNet reimburse the professional component of inpatient clinical pathology at 30% of a Medicare-based outpatient fee schedule.

This is a fixed statutory rate formula, not an administratively adjustable rate.

It ties state reimbursement to a federal schedule designed for a different billing environment.

It removes DSS flexibility to calibrate rates based on budget conditions, utilization trends, or actuarial data.

Rate methodology should remain within agency rulemaking and appropriations—not embedded permanently in statute.

2. Statutory Interference in Payment Flows

The bill dictates who must receive payment (hospital vs. third party) depending on employment status.

This overrides private contractual billing arrangements.

It inserts the legislature into operational payment architecture.

It creates rigidity in systems that depend on negotiated agreements.

The General Assembly should not be scripting payment routing mechanics into law.

3. Expanded Drug Distributor Reciprocity

Allowing out-of-state distributors to qualify through accreditation where no state license exists:

Reduces Missouri’s direct regulatory leverage.

Substitutes private accreditation for state-based oversight standards.

Potentially weakens enforcement uniformity.

Licensure integrity should not be diluted by statutory shortcut.

4. Anesthesia Payment Mandates

The bill prohibits carriers—including MO HealthNet and Medicaid managed care—from:

Imposing time limits on anesthesia payment.

Excluding any anesthesia time from reimbursement calculation.

This is legislative intrusion into reimbursement design.

It eliminates payer discretion.

It overrides negotiated contract methodology.

It applies even to excepted benefit plans.

The state is dictating billing formulas across public and private markets.

Structural Defect

HB 1945 combines Medicaid rate mandates, pharmacy licensure policy, and anesthesia reimbursement regulation in a single measure. These are distinct regulatory domains. Bundling them reflects policy overreach rather than targeted reform.

Conclusion

HB 1945 embeds reimbursement formulas in statute, interferes with private contracting, expands licensure pathways, and removes administrative flexibility.

It increases fiscal rigidity, regulatory complexity, and market distortion.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CECILIA CUTCHER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2026 4:01 AM
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Abortion is necessary. My boss raped me...!!