

HOUSE BILL 2283

By Stewart

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 24;
Title 63, Chapter 2 and Title 68, Chapter 11,
relative to evidence.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 24-5-113, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and substituting the following:

(a) Upon the trial of any civil proceeding involving injury or disease, the patient or a member of the patient's family, or other person responsible for the care of the patient, shall be a competent witness to identify bills for expenses incurred in the treatment of the patient upon a showing by such witness that the expenses were incurred in connection with the treatment of an injury, disease, or disability involved in the subject of the litigation at trial and that the bills were received from:

(1) A hospital;

(2) An ambulance service;

(3) A pharmacy, drugstore, or supplier of therapeutic or orthopedic devices; or

(4) A licensed practicing physician, dentist, orthodontist, podiatrist, physical or occupational therapist, doctor of chiropractic, psychologist, advanced practice registered nurse, social worker, professional counselor, or marriage and family therapist.

(b) Any bills that are identified under subsection (a) do not require identification by the person who submits the bill, and it shall not be necessary for an expert witness to testify that the charges were reasonable and necessary; provided, however, nothing in

this section shall be construed to limit the right of a thorough and sifting cross-examination as to such items of evidence.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.