Model notice to health care provider regarding attempted collection or collection of payment for medical services from employee

To: Health care provider or health care provider’s representative

RE: Billing or collecting from workers’ compensation patients

Dear ________ (print or type the name of health care provider or health care provider representative),

The attempted collection or collection of payment from an employee for medical services related to a claimed workers’ compensation injury is prohibited by law.¹

This notification is to inform you that if you, or a person acting on your behalf or direction, collects or attempts to collect payment from an employee for charges on a bill for medical treatment or services related to a claimed workers’ compensation injury, you may be subject to penalties assessed by the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI).²

This notice is only required to be provided to a health care provider once and, thereafter, DLI may assess penalties for future violations by a provider or their representative.

An attempt to collect payment from an employee includes:

- each contact made in person or by United States mail, telephone, text, email or any other type of contact seeking payment;
- engaging a collection agency or other third party to collect from the employee;
- filing a claim in conciliation court;
- attaching the employee’s tax refund; or
- submitting a report to a credit agency.

In addition to a $1,000 penalty per violation for each attempt to collect or a $2,000 penalty per violation if the employee paid as a result of the violation, DLI has the authority to require a health care provider to reimburse costs and expenses incurred by the employee as a result of any violations.

____________ (print or type the employee or patient’s name) is receiving treatment related to a claimed workers’ compensation injury. The relevant billing information for this employee is as follows.
You must send any bills related to this patient’s treatment to the workers’ compensation insurer for payment according to workers’ compensation statutes and rules.iii

If you or your representative engage in any attempts to collect payment from an employee for workers’ compensation medical services, it will be referred to DLI’s medical policy specialist.

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iMinnesota Statutes, sections 176.135, subdivision 7; 176.83, subd. 5, paragraph (c); and 176.136, subd. 2a. Minnesota Rules part 5221.0500, subpart 3.

iiMinn. Stat., section 176.136, subd. 2a.

iiiMinn. Stat., sections 176.135 through 176.1365. Minnesota Rules chapter 5221.