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Partner Chuck Dodge comments on new Maryland healthcare collection law

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A large portion of a new medical debt collection law in Maryland went into effect on June 1, 2021, with the remaining portion slated to go into effect on January 1, 2022. According to *AccountsRecovery.net*, the new law will require healthcare providers and debt collectors working medical debt accounts to make changes to their processes going forward. Hudson Cook Partner <u>Chuck Dodge</u> commented for *AccountsRecovery.net* on the new law.

"Maryland's Healthcare Collections Bill is heavy on new requirements and limitations that impose on healthcare providers and their servicing and debt collection agents fairly considerable obligations," explained Chuck. "The Bill requires new procedures, including an up-front information sheet about financial assistance, a written notice of intent to sue that is effectively a 45-day notice of right to cure, a 180-day period from the initial bill before which a hospital cannot sue, and an affidavit requirement for each lawsuit attesting to compliance with the new procedures. These requirements will necessitate fairly immediate attention to servicing and collection policies for hospitals and their collection vendors."

Chuck is a partner in Hudson Cook's Maine office. His practice includes assisting financial institutions, mortgage bankers, finance companies, licensed lenders, servicers, debt buyers and debt collectors, as well as the vendors who work with them, in the development and maintenance of consumer credit regulatory compliance programs. Chuck has primary responsibility for the firm's federal and state debt collection practice and assists clients with regulatory compliance issues related to the enforcement of credit agreements and the recovery of delinquent consumer debts.

To read more about the new law, visit AccountsRecovery.net.

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