

Hospital Car Parking Charges (Abolition) Bill

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Prohibit charging for car parking at NHS hospitals for patients, staff and visitors; and for connected purposes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Duty of the Secretary of State to secure abolition of NHS hospital car parking charges

- (1) It shall be the duty of the Secretary of State to secure that, in England, health care providers do not levy charges on patients, staff or visitors for the use of car parking spaces at NHS hospitals. 5
- (2) For the purposes of this Act, “health care providers” includes NHS Trusts, NHS Foundation Trusts, and any other NHS body prescribed by regulations made by the Secretary of State.
- (3) The duty in subsection (1) applies to car parking spaces provided directly or indirectly, including under contract, by or on behalf of a health care provider for patients, staff and visitors to whom car parking charges would otherwise apply. 10

2 Health care providers to abolish existing NHS hospital car parking charges

- (1) Health care providers shall, within three months of this Act being passed, make arrangements to cease the charging of patients, staff and visitors for the use of car parking spaces at NHS hospitals provided directly or indirectly, including under contract, by or on behalf of a health care provider where car parking charges would otherwise apply, subject to the exception in subsection (2). 15
- (2) The exception is where— 20
- (a) a health care provider is under contractual obligations with another person (“P”) who is, under that contract, responsible for the provision of car parking spaces for patients, staff and visitors, and

- (b) that contract provides for P to charge a person using the car parking spaces.
- (3) Where a contract as referred to in subsection (2) is in place, the health care provider must make arrangements to cease the charging of patients, staff and visitors for the use of car parking spaces upon conclusion of that contract or at its next review, whichever is the earlier. 5
- 3 Prohibition of any future NHS hospital car parking charges**
- Subject to the exception in section 2(2), health care providers shall ensure that charges are not levied on patients, staff or visitors for the use of car parking spaces at NHS hospitals, whether or not such charges have previously been levied. 10
- 4 Health care providers to maintain parking provision**
- Nothing in this Act is to be read as requiring health care providers to reduce or remove provision of car parking spaces at NHS hospitals.
- 5 Regulations** 15
- (1) Regulations under section 1(2) are to be made by statutory instrument.
- (2) A statutory instrument containing regulations under section 1(2) is subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.
- 6 Duty to report to Parliament**
- The Secretary of State shall, no later than 15 months after the day on which this Act is passed, publish a report on— 20
- (a) the number of NHS hospitals that have made arrangements to cease the charging of patients, staff and visitors for the use of car parking spaces; and
- (b) the number of NHS hospitals that remain under contract to apply charges for car parking spaces, and when these contracts will end. 25
- 7 Interpretation**
- In this Act—
- “health care providers” has the meaning given in section 1(2);
- “NHS hospital” means a health service hospital (as defined by the National Health Service Act 2006) in England; 30
- “NHS Trusts” has the meaning given in section 25 of the National Health Service Act 2006;
- “NHS Foundation Trusts” has the meaning given in section 30 of the National Health Service Act 2006. 35
- 8 Extent, commencement and short title**
- (1) This Act extends to England and Wales.
- (2) This Act comes into force on the day on which it is passed.

- (3) This Act may be cited as the Hospital Car Parking Charges (Abolition) Act 2018.

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To prohibit charging for car parking at NHS hospitals for patients, staff and visitors; and for connected purposes.

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supported by Lucy Allan, Frank Field,
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