
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 956 (File 67, as amended by Senate "A")*

AN ACT REQUIRING DISCHARGE STANDARDS REGARDING FOLLOW-UP APPOINTMENTS AND PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS FOR PATIENTS BEING DISCHARGED FROM A HOSPITAL OR NURSING HOME FACILITY.

SUMMARY

This bill requires Department of Public Health regulations setting minimum standards for hospital and nursing home discharge planning services to require written discharge plans to include (1) the date and location of each follow-up medical appointment scheduled before the patient's discharge and (2) to the extent known to the facility, a list of all medications the patient is currently taking and will take after discharge.

Under existing law, unchanged by the bill, these regulations must also require (1) written discharge plans made in consultation with the patient, or the patient's family or representative, and the patient's physician and (2) a procedure to give the patient notice of their discharge and a copy of their discharge plan before discharge.

Additionally, when a hospital or nursing home discharges a patient to his or her home, the bill requires the facility to electronically send to the patient's pharmacy each prescription ordered by a facility employee for the patient before discharge that he or she will need after discharge.

*Senate Amendment "A" (1) specifies that facilities must include a list of a patient's medications in his or her discharge plan only to the extent known to the facility and (2) requires facilities to send prescriptions they order for patients to their pharmacies electronically, instead of orally or in writing.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2023

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 35 Nay 0 (03/03/2023)