

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 23-39—SB 956

Public Health Committee

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 act requires Department of Public Health regulations setting minimum standards for hospital and nursing home discharge planning services to require that written discharge plans 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 act, 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 act requires the facility to electronically send the patient's pharmacy each prescription that a facility employee ordered for the patient before discharge that he or she will need after discharge.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2023