

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Senate Health Care

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Zena Rockowitz, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires hospitals to adopt written discharge policies. Modifies definition of lay caregiver. Specifies topics to be included in the discharge policy, that patient and lay caregiver are provided instruction or training prior to discharge, and that the hospital notify the lay caregiver of the patient’s discharge. Specifies policy requirements.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Currently, about half of all family and other lay caregivers perform medical or nursing tasks such as wound care, medication management and injections for family members in a non-hospital environment. Most patients do not receive a home visit by a health care professional after being discharged from a hospital. House Bill 3378-A requires hospitals to adopt written discharge policies to help patients and their caregivers transition from the hospital to the home.