

HB 1477 -- Missouri Hospital Infection Control Act

Sponsor: Schaaf

This bill creates the Missouri Hospital Infection Control Act of 2004. The bill:

- (1) Authorizes the Department of Health and Senior Services to issue subpoenas in order to investigate complaints and potential infection outbreaks in hospitals;
- (2) Gives infection control officers the authority to require hospitals to terminate a practice or procedure which does not meet the standard of care for the prevention of hospital infections;
- (3) Requires hospital infection surveillance measures and procedures to be adequate to detect nosocomial infections;
- (4) Requires all suspected infection outbreaks to be reported to the department;
- (5) Requires all hospitals to adopt evidenced-based infection control policies which will be subject to review by the department;
- (6) Prohibits hospital personnel in a managerial position from restricting hospital employees from discussing any aspect of care with an agent of the department concerning potential hospital infection issues or complaints;
- (7) Requires medical facilities to perform a root-cause analysis on all identified cases of death or a major permanent loss of function resulting from a nosocomial infection and report the analysis to the department. Methicillin- and vancomycin-resistant infections are also required to be reported. The department is required to maintain a database of the common issues and root causes;
- (8) Requires the department to develop rules to implement the bill and requires that all information collected be confidential; and
- (9) Requires that on-site surveys of hospitals by non-governmental entities who evaluate the quality of health care delivered will be unannounced. Unannounced survey results will not be used to issue statements about the quality of the hospital surveyed.