

HCS HB 286 -- INFECTION CONTROL

SPONSOR: Schaaf

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Healthcare Transformation by a vote of 11 to 0.

Beginning January 1, 2010, this substitute requires every hospital licensed in the state to establish a methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) control program to isolate infected patients; reduce the risk of MRSA transmission; establish procedures, protocols, and education for staff known to be MRSA-colonized or MRSA-infected; and establish an infection-control intervention protocol.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill corrects a technical problem with the existing statute and helps stop the spread of difficult-to-treat MRSA infections. Ventilator-associated pneumonia reporting has not been implemented due to differences between definitions.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Schaaf; St. Louis Area Business Health Coalition; and Missouri Hospital Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.