

HCS HB 1382 -- MISSOURI PATIENT PRIVACY ACT

SPONSOR: Hobbs (Ervin)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Insurance Policy by a vote of 10 to 0.

This substitute establishes the Missouri Patient Privacy Act which prohibits the disclosure of patient-specific health information to any employer, public or private payer, or employee or agent of a state department or agency without the written consent of the patient excluding information submitted as part of a medical claim. Health information may be disclosed to a health insurer; labor benefit trust; employer; state employee; the Missouri Consolidated Health Care Plan; the Department of Health and Senior Services; the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration; or the MO HealthNet Division within the Department of Social Services in connection with the person's official duties including overseeing state health programs, tracking infectious diseases, administering state wellness initiatives and programs, researching state medical trends, and assessing the quality and affordability of health care.

The substitute does not prohibit disclosure of personal health information consistent with federal law and does not require health care providers to obscure or remove the information when disclosing it.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2011, FY 2012, and FY 2013.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will keep personal health information private and will help make it consistent with federal law.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Ervin.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.