

HB 113 -- LIFE-SUSTAINING TREATMENT POLICIES OF HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

SPONSOR: Kidd

This bill establishes Simon's Law that changes the laws regarding life-sustaining treatment policies of health care facilities. A health care facility, nursing home, or physician must disclose in writing any policies relating to a patient or resident or the services that a patient or resident may receive involving life-sustaining or nonbeneficial treatment within the health care facility or agency upon the request of a patient or resident or a prospective patient or resident.

Upon admission or upon request, if the patient or resident or prospective patient or resident is a minor child or minor ward, the health care facility, nursing home, or physician in charge must provide the policies in writing to at least one parent or legal guardian of the patient or resident or prospective patient or resident.

The bill prohibits a health care facility, nursing home, physician, nurse, or medical staff from withholding life-sustaining procedures, food, medication, or nutrition, or placing any restrictions on life-sustaining procedures including, but not limited to, food, medication, or nutrition for any minor patient, resident, or ward without the written permission of at least one parent or legal guardian of the minor patient or ward.

The institution of a do-not-resuscitate order or similar physician's order, either orally or in writing, is prohibited without the written permission of at least one parent or legal guardian of the minor patient or resident or prospective minor patient or resident.

These provisions must not require a health care facility, nursing home, or physician to have a written policy relating to or involving life-sustaining or nonbeneficial treatment for minor or adult patients, residents, or wards.