

HCS SB 951 -- RELATING TO HEALTH CARE

SPONSOR: Crawford

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 11 to 0.

This bill allows an applicant for or holder of a hospital license to define the premises of a hospital campus to include tracts of property which are adjacent but for a single intersection (Section 197.052, RSMo).

This bill clarifies that any health care facility seeking a certificate of need nonapplicability review for an increase in total beds or total bed capacity that is 10 or less beds or 10% or less, of total bed capacity, are only eligible for nonapplicability review if the facility is licensed under Chapter 198 and has had no patient care class I deficiencies within the last 18 months and has maintained at least an 85% average occupancy rate for the previous six quarters (Section 197.305).

The bill allows certain hospital licensure regulations to incorporate by reference Medicare conditions of participation, including later additions or amendments (Section 536.031).

These provisions are similar to SB 95 (2018).

This bill allows health care providers to charge a fee for determining and providing documentation that no such records exist in response to a requested for patient health care records. Medical providers can currently charge a fee for providing such records (Section 191.227).

This provision is similar to HB 2413 (2018).

This bill states that the otherwise required administration of eye drops to a newborn infant by a physician, midwife, or nurse is not required if a parent or legal guardian objects to the treatment. Additionally, the bill removes a provision requiring the physician, nurse, or midwife to report in writing to the Board of Health his or her compliance with using the eye drops (Section 210.070).

This provision is similar to HB 2183 (2018).

This bill also states that certain medical personnel may withdraw blood from a person in custody for the purpose of determining the alcohol content if the medical personnel has the consent of the

patient or a warrant. The bill specifies that no medical hospital personnel or EMT can be arrested for or charged with an offense for failure to comply with this section or held civilly liable for complying with these requirements (Section 577.029).

This provision is similar to HB 2117 (2018).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this bill allows hospitals to meet Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) requirements without having to wait for state law to catch up with any CMS changes. It eliminates unnecessary delays.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Crawford; Saint Luke Health System; SSM Health; and the Missouri Hospital Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.