

HB 3457 -- MEDICALLY COMPLEX PEDIATRIC PATIENTS

SPONSOR: Byrnes

This bill requires hospitals with emergency departments to implement within existing electronic health records systems a clearly visible electronic alert or flag for a medically complex pediatric patient, as that term is defined in the bill. The alert will appear in an immediately identifiable manner, provide rapid, one-click access to the patient's care plan, if available, and function in a manner that does not delay triage or treatment.

A parent or legal guardian may request inclusion of the patient in the alert system, and can submit a care plan for the patient for inclusion in the hospital's electronic health record. Any care plan for a medically complex pediatric patient will be entered into the system in coordination with a licensed health care provider; however, participation in the alert system is voluntary and requires the consent of the parent or legal guardian.

The Department of Health and Senior Services is required to administer the provisions of this bill within existing appropriations, and can issue model guidelines to assist hospitals in implementation of the bill's requirements.