

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 1448
Version: As introduced

DATE: March 23, 2009

Authors: Mullery

Subject: Health care agents; Access to data

Analyst: Matt Gehring, 651-296-5052

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Overview

This bill expands access and notification to a health care agent under certain circumstances.

Section

- 1 Public hospitals, directory information.** Provides that directory information about an emergency patient admitted to a public hospital, when the patient is unable to communicate, may not be released until a reasonable effort is made to notify the patient's health care agent, in addition to efforts to notify the patient's next of kin as required by current law.
- 2 Medical data.** Provides that medical data may be disclosed to the health care agent of a deceased patient or client.
- 3 Certified birth or death record.** Provides that the certified birth or death record of an individual may be provided to the individual's health care agent upon proper attestation.
- 4 Isolation or quarantine.** Provides that a health care agent may choose to enter the isolation or quarantine area of a person subject to the isolation or quarantine. The health care agent must sign a consent form which indicates the agent's understanding of the health risks of entry.

Current law allows this entry for family members only.
- 5 Traffic accident reports.** Provides that a traffic accident report from the commissioner of public safety or a law enforcement agency must be provided to any person who is physically injured, suffers damage to property, loses a means of support, or suffers other pecuniary (monetary) loss resulting from the accident.
- 6 Public institutions.** Provides that a health care agent is among the persons that may be required to be notified in the event of a modification to a facility operated by the commissioner of human services. These facilities include residential treatment centers

serving those with mental illness, chemical dependency, and developmental disabilities.

- 7 **Admission to treatment facility.** Provides that a health care agent is among the persons that may be required to be notified upon the admission of a committed person to a treatment facility.
- 8 **Transfer of committed person.** Provides that a health care agent is among the persons that may be required to be notified if a committed person is transferred from one treatment facility to another.
- 9 **Discharge of committed person from treatment facility.** Provides that a health care agent is among the persons that may be required to be notified if a committed person is discharged from a treatment facility.
- 10 **Nursing facilities.** Provides that a health care agent is among the persons that may be required to be notified if an individual is admitted to a nursing facility or boarding care facility prior to being screened.