

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 849

2024 Regular Session

Illg

HEALTH CARE/FACILITIES: Provides relative to healthcare outcomes for patient's suffering with behavioral health issues.

DIGEST

Proposed law states that if a patient is admitted for inpatient behavioral healthcare services as a result of an emergency certificate issued by a physician, the individual that is responsible for discharge planning at the inpatient healthcare facility shall make a reasonable effort to do all of the following:

- (1) Notify any healthcare professional that is known to be currently treating the patient for a behavioral healthcare condition that the patient is to be discharged, unless the patient objects to the notification.
- (2) Notify the healthcare professional that the patient is referred to for follow-up behavioral healthcare services of the patient's discharge no later than 24 hours after the patient is discharged. The notice shall include of a summary of the patient's condition and any medically relevant information.
- (3) Provide the patient educational documents created and published by the La. Department of Health prior to discharge explaining the signs of self-harm and the importance of seeking follow-up care.

Proposed law requires a healthcare professional that provides behavioral health services to accept documents from the family, friends, loved ones, and caregivers of the patient about the patient's condition. Proposed law further requires the healthcare professional to add documentation considered relevant by the healthcare professional to the patient's medical record.

Proposed law designates proposed law as the "Matthew Samuel Milam Act".

(Adds R.S. 28:4 and 53.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

- 1. Add that healthcare professionals may communicate via telephone conversation to satisfy the requirements of this proposed law.
- 2. Add that the La. Department of Health shall create and publish educational documents about the risks to a patient after discharge from an admission pursuant to an emergency certification.
- 3. Provide that a healthcare provider has the discretion to include collected documentation from family, friends, loved ones, and caregivers about the patient's condition in the patient's medical record.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to the engrossed bill

- 1. Changes provisions relative to reporting information upon a patient's discharge.

2. Moves provisions relative to documentation and other information provided by a patient's family members, caregivers, friend, or healthcare professionals.
3. Makes technical changes.