
DIGEST

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Simon

HB No. 668

Abstract: Provides for electronic visit verification for long-term care services delivered in home- and community-based settings.

Proposed law defines "electronic visit verification system" as an integrated telephonic and computer-based system which electronically verifies that service visits occur and documents the points in time when service provision begins and ends.

Proposed law provides a legislative finding that due to the significant potential of electronic visit verification systems for improving care quality and containing medical assistance program costs, notably through prevention of fraud and abuse, the implementation of such systems in home- and community-based long-term care programs is in the best interest of this state.

Proposed law provides that, to the maximum extent practicable, and subject to certain conditions of proposed law, the Dept. of Health and Hospitals (DHH) shall implement an electronic visit verification system for all long-term care services, as defined in present law, that it funds through medical assistance programs (e.g. Medicaid). Provides that DHH shall promulgate such rules in accordance with the APA as are necessary to ensure optimal functioning of the electronic visit verification system and address specific technical operations and features of the system.

Proposed law authorizes DHH to provide rate enhancements and other financial incentives to providers of long-term care services to facilitate timely and effective implementation of the electronic visit verification system.

Proposed law stipulates that DHH shall implement an electronic visit verification system only if the fiscal impact thereof is reasonably expected to be cost neutral or result in cost savings.

(Adds R.S. 40:1300.324)