

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 668

BY REPRESENTATIVE SIMON

HEALTH/HOME CARE: Provides for electronic visit verification for long-term care services delivered in home- and community-based settings

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 40:1300.324, relative to long-term care services; to provide for requirements  
3 of the Department of Health and Hospitals relative to health service program  
4 administration; to provide for long-term care service programs; to provide a  
5 definition for electronic visit verification system; to provide a conditional  
6 requirement for implementing such a system; to provide findings relative to quality  
7 of care and cost savings; to provide for definitions; to provide for promulgation of  
8 rules; and to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 40:1300.324 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §1300.324. Electronic visit verification system; implementation; conditions

12 A. For purposes of this Section, "electronic visit verification system" means  
13 an integrated telephonic and computer-based system which electronically verifies  
14 that service visits occur and documents the points in time when service provision  
15 begins and ends.

16 B. The legislature hereby finds that due to the significant potential of  
17 electronic visit verification systems for improving care quality and containing  
18 medical assistance program costs, notably through prevention of fraud and abuse, the  
19 implementation of such systems in home- and community-based long-term care  
20 programs is in the best interest of this state.

1           C. To the maximum extent practicable, and subject to the conditions  
2           provided in Subsection D of this Section, the department shall implement an  
3           electronic visit verification system for all long-term care services, as defined in R.S.  
4           40:1300.322, that it funds through medical assistance programs.

5           D.(1) The department shall promulgate such rules in accordance with the  
6           Administrative Procedure Act as are necessary to ensure optimal functioning of the  
7           electronic visit verification system. The rules shall provide for operations and  
8           features of the system which include, without limitation, the following:

9                   (a) Functional capacity.

10                   (b) Billing integration.

11                   (c) Data sharing.

12                   (d) Data storage and security.

13                   (e) Electronic reporting.

14                   (f) Disaster recovery plans and procedures that comply with the federal  
15           guidelines provided in 45 CFR 94.62(f).

16                   (2) The department may provide rate enhancements and other financial  
17           incentives to providers of long-term care services to facilitate timely and effective  
18           implementation of the electronic visit verification system.

19                   (3) The department may implement an electronic visit verification system  
20           only if the fiscal impact thereof is reasonably expected to be cost neutral or result in  
21           cost savings.

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#### DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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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)