
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1021

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2009 Regular Session

By House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Campbell, Morrell, and Moeller)

READ FIRST TIME 01/26/09.

1 AN ACT Relating to prior notice of hospital surveys and audits; and
2 amending RCW 70.41.120.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.41.120 and 2005 c 447 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The department shall make or cause to be made an unannounced
7 inspection of all hospitals on average at least every eighteen months.
8 Every inspection of a hospital may include an inspection of every part
9 of the premises. The department may make an examination of all phases
10 of the hospital operation necessary to determine compliance with the
11 law and the standards, rules and regulations adopted thereunder.

12 (2) The department shall not issue its final report regarding an
13 unannounced inspection by the department until: (a) The hospital is
14 given at least two weeks following the inspection to provide any
15 information or documentation requested by the department during the
16 unannounced inspection that was not available at the time of the
17 request; and (b) at least one person from the department conducting the
18 inspection meets personally with the chief administrator or executive

1 officer of the hospital following the inspection or the chief
2 administrator or executive officer declines such a meeting.

3 (3) Any licensee or applicant desiring to make alterations or
4 additions to its facilities or to construct new facilities shall,
5 before commencing such alteration, addition or new construction, comply
6 with the regulations prescribed by the department.

7 (4) No hospital licensed pursuant to the provisions of this chapter
8 shall be required to be inspected or licensed under other state laws or
9 rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, or local ordinances,
10 relative to hotels, restaurants, lodging houses, boarding houses,
11 places of refreshment, nursing homes, maternity homes, or psychiatric
12 hospitals.

13 (5) To avoid unnecessary duplication in inspections, the department
14 shall coordinate with the department of social and health services, the
15 office of the state fire marshal, and local agencies when inspecting
16 facilities over which each agency has jurisdiction, the facilities
17 including but not necessarily being limited to hospitals with both
18 acute care and skilled nursing or psychiatric nursing functions. The
19 department shall notify the office of the state fire marshal and the
20 relevant local agency at least four weeks prior to any inspection
21 conducted under this section and invite their attendance at the
22 inspection, and shall provide a copy of its inspection report to each
23 agency upon completion.

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