

Session 115 - (2003-2004)

H 4001 General Bill, By J.E. Smith, Bales, Battle, Branham, Breeland, J. Brown, Clyburn, Cobb-Hunter, Emory, Gourdine, Haskins, M. Hines, Howard, Kennedy, Kirsh, Lloyd, Lourie, Mack, Miller, Moody-Lawrence, J.H. Neal, J.M. Neal, Ott, Rutherford, Snow and Huggins

Summary: Hospital Patient Protection Act

A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING ARTICLE 27 TO CHAPTER 7, TITLE 44, SO AS TO ENACT THE "LEWIS BLACKMAN HOSPITAL PATIENT PROTECTION ACT" TO REQUIRE HOSPITAL PERSONNEL TO WEAR BADGES IDENTIFYING THEIR NAMES, DEPARTMENTS, AND STATUS; TO REQUIRE THAT WRITTEN INFORMATION BE PROVIDED TO PATIENTS PRIOR TO ADMISSION CONCERNING WHETHER ANY OF THEIR CARE IS TO BE PROVIDED BY RESIDENT PHYSICIANS OR OTHER MEDICAL TRAINEES; TO REQUIRE A HOSPITAL TO ASSIGN A PRIMARY ATTENDING PHYSICIAN TO A PATIENT UPON ADMISSION AND TO REQUIRE THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN, OR ANOTHER PHYSICIAN DESIGNATED BY THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN, TO EXAMINE THE PATIENT DAILY AND TO INDICATE SUCH IN THE PATIENT'S CHART; TO REQUIRE HOSPITALS WITH OVER ONE HUNDRED BEDS TO HAVE AN ATTENDING PHYSICIAN ONSITE AT ALL TIMES TO PROVIDE CONSULTATION AND CARE; TO REQUIRE A HOSPITAL TO INFORM A PATIENT AND HIS FAMILY AS TO WHO IS THE PATIENT'S ATTENDING PHYSICIAN, THE ONSITE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN, THE HEAD NURSE FOR THE PATIENT'S UNIT, AND THE HOSPITAL NURSING SUPERVISOR AND MEDICAL DIRECTOR, HOW TO CONTACT THESE INDIVIDUALS, AND THAT THEY MAY CONTACT THESE INDIVIDUALS AT ANY TIME; TO REQUIRE HOSPITALS TO POST SIGNS PROVIDING CERTAIN TELEPHONE CONTACT INFORMATION; TO PROVIDE CIVIL FINES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE; AND TO PROVIDE THAT THIS CHAPTER DOES NOT PRECLUDE A CLAIM THAT MAY HAVE OTHERWISE BEEN ASSERTED UNDER COMMON LAW OR ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW; AND TO AMEND SECTION 40-47-5, RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF "PHYSICIAN" AND "SURGEON", SO AS TO ALSO INCLUDE DOCTORS OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE IN THIS DEFINITION AND TO RESTRICT THE USE OF THESE TITLES TO PERSONS LICENSED TO PRACTICE MEDICINE.

04/10/03 House Introduced and read first time HJ-42

04/10/03 House Referred to Committee on Judiciary HJ-43

05/22/03 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Huggins