**South Carolina General Assembly**

125th Session, 2023-2024

**H. 5226**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. M.M. Smith, Crawford, Elliott, B.J. Cox, Wetmore, Hewitt, Neese, West, Sessions, B. Newton, Bannister, Herbkersman, Rutherford and Wooten

Companion/Similar bill(s): 858

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Introduced in the House on March 6, 2024

Currently residing in the House Committee on **Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs**

Summary: Hospital at Home

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

3/6/2024 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 20](h:\hj\20240306.docx))

3/6/2024 House Referred to Committee on **Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs** ([House Journal‑page 20](h:\hj\20240306.docx))

View the latest  [legislative information](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=5226&session=125&summary=B)  at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[03/06/2024](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/prever/5226_20240306.docx)

A bill

TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 44‑7‑130, RELATING TO HEALTH CARE FACILITY LICENSURE DEFINITIONS, SO AS TO ADD A DEFINITION FOR “ACUTE HOSPITAL CARE AT HOME”; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 44‑7‑170, RELATING TO CERTIFICATE OF NEED EXEMPTIONS, SO AS TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL OR A SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO PROMULGATE REGULATIONS FOR LICENSING ACUTE HOSPITAL CARE AT HOME PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 44‑7‑130 of the S.C. Code is amended by adding:

(25) “Acute hospital care at home” means acute‑level hospital care to treat a subset of diagnoses that respond safely and effectively to home‑based acute care, utilizing technology to provide continuous remote patient monitoring and connectivity to the patient and developing in‑home services to ensure the same level of care in the home as in a traditional hospital stay as well as patient safety. Acute hospital care at home must be provided by a hospital licensed in this State pursuant to this article to eligible patients who have provided consent to such care, utilizing a multidisciplinary team to deliver the care.

SECTION 2. Section 44‑7‑170(A) of the S.C. Code is amended to read:

(A) The following are exempt from Certificate of Need review:

(1) the relocation of a licensed hospital in the same county in which the hospital is currently located, as long as:

(a) any Certificate of Need issued to the hospital for a project to be located at the hospital’s existing location has been fulfilled, withdrawn, or has expired in accordance with Section 44‑7‑230 and the department’s implementing regulations; and

(b) the proposed site of relocation is utilized in a manner that furthers health care delivery and innovation for the citizens of the State of South Carolina;

(2) the purchase, merger, or otherwise the acquisition of an existing hospital by another person or health care facility;

(3) crisis stabilization unit facilities. Notwithstanding subsection (C), crisis stabilization unit facilities will not require a written exemption from the department.; and

(4) acute hospital care at home programs and services delivered by a licensed acute care hospital. The delivery of acute hospital care at home programs and services by a licensed acute care hospital does not require a written exemption from the department. Additionally, patients enrolled in the hospital care at home program shall not be considered within the licensed bed capacity of the hospital participating in the program.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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