

HB 1235 -- Health Care Directives

Sponsor: Davis

This bill specifies that a health care provider who is withholding or withdrawing artificially supplied nutrition and hydration according to a health care directive under a durable power of attorney will be prohibited from withholding or withdrawing food and water unless a 60-day rehabilitative effort involving the patient's swallowing reflexes has elapsed or oral feeding is offered at least three times per day after discontinuing artificially supplied nutrition and hydration. Oral feedings will only be offered if the patient is able and willing and there is no evidence of choking, distress, or pain. If a patient swallows during an oral feeding, it will be deemed as a desire to continue food and water and revokes any underlying health care directive.