

HCS HB 1779 -- ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES (Riddle)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Committee on Health Care Policy

Currently, physical or chemical restraints, isolation, or seclusion cannot be used on a patient, resident, or client of a mental health facility or mental health program unless it is determined by the head of the facility or the attending licensed physician that it is necessary to protect the health and safety of the individual or others and that it provides the least restrictive environment. This bill allows an order to also be made by an advanced practice registered nurse in a collaborative practice arrangement with the attending licensed physician. If the advanced practice registered nurse orders the use of restraints, isolation, or seclusion, it must be reviewed in person by the attending licensed physician if the episode of restraint extends beyond a four-hour duration for a person under 18 years of age, beyond an eight-hour duration for a person 18 years of age or older, or for any total length of restraint lasting more than a four-hour duration in a 24-hour period in the case of a person under 18 years of age or beyond an eight-hour duration in the case of a person over 18 years of age in a 24-hour period. The review must occur prior to the time limit specified and must be documented by the licensed physician in the clinical record of the patient, resident, or client.

Depending on the circumstances under which an individual is committed to the facility, a security escort device may be used when an individual is transported outside a mental health facility based on the determination of the head of the facility or the attending licensed physician. These provisions allow a determination to also be made by the advanced practice registered nurse in a collaborative practice arrangement with the attending licensed physician.

Any order issued by the advanced practice registered nurse under these provisions must be reviewed in person by the attending licensed physician of the facility within 24 hours or the next regular working day of the order being issued, and the review must be documented in the clinical record of the patient, resident, or client.

The provisions of the bill regarding patient restraint determinations by advanced practice registered nurses will expire four years after the effective date.