

HB 1019 -- MENTAL HEALTH PATIENT ADMISSION NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

SPONSOR: Green

This bill specifies that at the time a patient is voluntarily admitted to a mental health facility, the identity and contact information of the person to be notified in case of an emergency must be entered in that patient's clinical record.

At the time a patient is admitted to a mental health facility for involuntary examination or placement or when a petition for involuntary placement is filed, contact information of the patient's guardian, or representative, and attorney must be entered into the patient's clinical record.

The bill prohibits certain individuals from being a patient's representative. Notice of a voluntary patient's admission must be given only at the request of the patient; except that, in an emergency, notice must be given as determined by the mental health facility.

A mental health facility must give prompt notice of the location of a patient who is being involuntarily held for examination by telephone or in person within 24 hours of the patient's arrival at the facility unless the patient requests that no notification be made.

If a patient is to be transferred from one mental health facility to another, notice must be given by the facility where the patient is located prior to the transfer.

The chief administrative officer of a mental health facility is authorized to petition the circuit court for the appointment of a guardian advocate based upon the opinion of a psychiatrist that the patient is incompetent to consent to treatment. The court may authorize the guardian advocate to consent to medical treatment, with certain exceptions, as well as mental health treatment.

This bill is the same as HB 2309 (2016) and HB 631 (2015).