THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1790 Session of 2005

INTRODUCED BY DeLUCA, MICOZZIE, CIVERA, DIVEN, BEBKO-JONES,
BIANCUCCI, BOYD, BUNT, CALTAGIRONE, CRAHALLA, EACHUS,
FABRIZIO, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GEORGE, GOOD, GOODMAN, GRUCELA,
JOSEPHS, KOTIK, MANDERINO, MARKOSEK, MELIO, MUNDY, MYERS,
REICHLEY, RUFFING, TANGRETTI, E. Z. TAYLOR, THOMAS, VEON,
WALKO, YOUNGBLOOD, COSTA, READSHAW, PETRONE, SANTONI,
PALLONE, DERMODY, GERBER, PISTELLA, PRESTON, McCALL,
WHEATLEY, HALUSKA, SHAPIRO, LEVDANSKY, CORRIGAN, BLACKWELL,
KIRKLAND, JAMES, WATERS, ROBERTS, STETLER AND LESCOVITZ,
JUNE 23, 2005

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
JUNE 23, 2005

AN ACT

1   Amending the act of July 8, 1986 (P.L.408, No.89), entitled, as
2   reenacted and amended, "An act providing for the creation of
3   the Health Care Cost Containment Council, for its powers and
4   duties, for health care cost containment through the
5   collection and dissemination of data, for public
6   accountability of health care costs and for health care for
7   the indigent; and making an appropriation," further providing
8   for data dissemination and publication and for expiration
9   date of act.

10   The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

11 hereby enacts as follows:

12   Section 1. Section 7 of the act of July 8, 1986 (P.L.408,

13 No.89), known as the Health Care Cost Containment Act, reenacted

14 and amended July 17, 2003 (P.L.31, No.14), is amended by adding

15 subsections to read:

16 Section 7. Data dissemination and publication.

17   * * *

1   (c) Information on infections.--Notwithstanding any other

2   provision of law to the contrary, hospitals shall post on a

3   quarterly basis, in a place readily open and available to the

4   public, information on infections, including:

5   (1) The number of infections identified by the hospital

6   through diagnosis and procedure codes and billed for on the

7   hospital's UB92 or its successor billing form. The number

8   shall be based on a list of codes provided to hospitals by

9   the council and shall be known as "UB identified infections."

10   (2) The number of hospital-acquired infections reported

11   to the council as identified in field 21d of the UB92 or its

12   successor billing form. The number shall be known as

13   "hospital-acquired infections."

14 (d) Payors.--

15   (1) For each submission in accordance with section 6 by

16   a hospital that contains information related to an infection

17   as described in subsection (c), a misadventure or other

18   patient safety issue, the council shall furnish relevant

19   information to the payor of record as identified by the

20   hospital. This subsection applies to those payors with at

21   least 1% of the health insurance market share in this

22   Commonwealth according to the Insurance Department. Each

23   payor shall verify whether the condition identified in the

24   submission has been paid and shall supply charge and payment

25   data, as outlined in a council statement of policy.

26   (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the

27   contrary, the council may implement the provisions of this

28   subsection through a statement of policy. Nothing in this

29   subsection shall be construed to require the council to

30   promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of this

1   subsection.

2   (3) The council may in its discretion release public

3   reports on the data under this subsection.

4   Section 2. Section 19 of the act is amended to read:

5   Section 19. Sunset.

6   This act shall expire June 30, [2008] 2013, unless reenacted

7   prior to that date. By September 1, 2007, a written report by

8   the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee evaluating the

9   management, visibility, awareness and performance of the council

10   shall be provided to the Public Health and Welfare Committee of

11   the Senate and the Health and Human Services Committee of the

12   House of Representatives. The report shall include a review of

13   the council's procedures and policies, the availability and

14   quality of data for completing reports to hospitals and outside

15   vendor purchasers, the ability of the council to become self-

16   sufficient by selling data to outside purchasers, whether there

17   is a more cost-efficient way of accomplishing the objectives of

18   the council and the need for reauthorization of the council.

19   Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.