



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1907

PRINTERS NO. 3133

PRIME SPONSOR: Saylor

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2013/14	FY 2014/15
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: House Bill 1907, Printer's Number 3133, the Hospital Observation Status Consumer Notification Act, requires hospitals to provide oral and written notice to a patient of their outpatient status in certain circumstances. This legislation is effective July 1, 2014 or immediately, whichever is later.

ANALYSIS: This legislation requires hospitals to provide oral and written notice to a patient of the patient's outpatient status, the billing implications of the outpatient status and the impact on the patient's Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance coverage for the current hospital services including medications and other pharmaceutical supplies and coverage for a subsequent discharge to a skilled nursing facility or home-based and community-based care. The notice must be provided if all of the following apply: the patient has received onsite services from the hospital for more than 23 consecutive hours; the services received include a hospital bed and meals provided in an area other than the emergency room; and the patient has not been formally admitted as an inpatient at the hospital. The written notice must be signed by the patient or their legal representative and the hospital staff person who communicates the patient's status.

If the Federal government eliminates or modifies the Medicare three-day qualifying hospital stay requirement in a manner that makes this notification of outpatient status unnecessary, the Secretary of Health shall submit notice of the amendment for publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin that this act is expired.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact to the Commonwealth as a result of this legislation. Hospitals may incur costs to train the staff who will interact with patients regarding their outpatient status.

PREPARED BY: Ann Bertolino
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: March 19, 2014

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.