



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 1907

PRINTERS NO. 3334

PRIME SPONSOR: Saylor

COST / (SAVINGS)

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

SUMMARY: House Bill 1907, Printer's Number 3334, 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 in 180 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation requires hospitals to provide oral and written notice to a patient or the patient's designee of the patient's outpatient status and a general description of outpatient observation status. 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 patient notice must include a statement that outpatient observation status may impact coverage determinations made by the Federal Medicare Program or the patient's private insurance for hospital and post-hospital payments; final decisions related to outpatient observation status may be made after a patient is no longer in the hospital and the patient should contact Medicare, Medicaid or any other insurance provider with specific questions about coverage. The hospital is not responsible for coverage implications or patient notification if a patient's inpatient stay is later recategorized.

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.

PREPARED BY: Ann Bertolino
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: April 8, 2014

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