

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 944 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY E. NELSON, LONGIETTI, HILL-EVANS, MARKOSEK,
 R. BROWN, SANCHEZ, PISCIOTTANO, NEILSON, BURGOS, JOZWIAK,
 SCHLEGEL CULVER, DUNBAR, GLEIM, ZIMMERMAN, FREEMAN, STRUZZI,
 KINKEAD, GUENST, KINSEY, LEWIS DELROSSO, O'NEAL, RADER,
 JAMES, DAVANZO, MUSTELLO, TOPPER, CRUZ AND GILLEN,
 MARCH 17, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, MARCH 17, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), entitled
 2 "An act providing for and reorganizing the conduct of the
 3 executive and administrative work of the Commonwealth by the
 4 Executive Department thereof and the administrative
 5 departments, boards, commissions, and officers thereof,
 6 including the boards of trustees of State Normal Schools, or
 7 Teachers Colleges; abolishing, creating, reorganizing or
 8 authorizing the reorganization of certain administrative
 9 departments, boards, and commissions; defining the powers and
 10 duties of the Governor and other executive and administrative
 11 officers, and of the several administrative departments,
 12 boards, commissions, and officers; fixing the salaries of the
 13 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and certain other executive
 14 and administrative officers; providing for the appointment of
 15 certain administrative officers, and of all deputies and
 16 other assistants and employes in certain departments, boards,
 17 and commissions; providing for judicial administration; and
 18 prescribing the manner in which the number and compensation
 19 of the deputies and all other assistants and employes of
 20 certain departments, boards and commissions shall be
 21 determined," in powers and duties of the Department of Drug
 22 and Alcohol Programs, further providing for powers and
 23 duties.

24 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 25 hereby enacts as follows:

26 Section 1. Section 2301-A of the act of April 9, 1929

1 (P.L.177, No.175), known as The Administrative Code of 1929, is
2 amended by adding a paragraph to read:

3 Section 2301-A. Powers and duties.

4 The Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs shall have the
5 power and its duty shall be:

6 * * *

7 (8.1) To require inpatient treatment facilities to
8 notify as appropriate an emergency contact designated by a
9 patient if the patient leaves a treatment facility against
10 medical advice, provided that the patient has not revoked
11 consent to notify the emergency contact. Notification must
12 occur immediately and in no event later than 12 hours of a
13 patient leaving against medical advice. Treatment facilities
14 shall develop policies and procedures to implement this
15 paragraph, which shall include advising patients of
16 notifications required to be made by treatment facilities.
17 The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply where the
18 treatment facility has knowledge of or reason to know of
19 allegations of domestic abuse perpetrated upon the patient by
20 the emergency contact.

21 * * *

22 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.