

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL**No. 741** Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY HEFFLEY, HILL-EVANS, T. DAVIS, JAMES, POLINCHOCK,
SCHLEGEL CULVER, ZIMMERMAN, WHEELAND, TOMLINSON AND LABS,
MARCH 3, 2021

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, APRIL 6, 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, providing for notification of emergency
23 contact.

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

26 Section 1. The act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known
27 as The Administrative Code of 1929, is amended by adding a

1 section to read:

2 Section 2319-A. Notification of emergency contact.

3 (a) General rule.--A drug and alcohol recovery house shall
4 notify, as appropriate, an emergency contact designated by a
5 patient if the patient leaves the RESIDENT IF THE RESIDENT SELF- <--
6 DISCHARGES FROM OR LEAVES AND FAILS TO RETURN AS EXPECTED TO THE
7 drug and alcohol recovery house against medical advice, provided <--
8 that the patient RESIDENT has not revoked consent to notify the <--
9 emergency contact. Notification shall occur immediately and in
10 no event later than 12 hours of a patient leaving against <--
11 medical advice. SELF-DISCHARGE OR AFTER A RESIDENT FAILS TO <--
12 RETURN TO THE DRUG AND ALCOHOL RECOVERY HOUSE AT THE RESIDENT'S
13 EXPECTED TIME.

14 (b) Policies and procedures.--A drug and alcohol recovery
15 house shall develop policies and procedures to implement this
16 section, which shall include advising patients RESIDENTS of <--
17 notifications required to be made by the drug and alcohol
18 recovery house.

19 (c) Applicability.--The provisions of this section shall not
20 apply where the drug and alcohol recovery house has knowledge of
21 or reason to know of allegations of domestic abuse perpetrated
22 upon the patient RESIDENT by the emergency contact. <--

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