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## DIGEST

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HB 79 Original

2021 Regular Session

McMahan

**Abstract:** Provides for the selection of a treatment facility by a patient and the protection of a patient's right to receive treatment.

Present law provides that a treatment facility shall be selected in the following order of priority:

- (1) Medical suitability.
- (2) Least restriction of the person's liberty.
- (3) Nearness to the patient's usual residence.
- (4) Financial or other status of the patient.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that in the selection of the treatment facility a patient's preference shall be the fifth consideration.

Present law provides that a patient may be admitted by an emergency certificate to be diagnosed and treated.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that the emergency certificate shall allow legal authority for a patient to be transported to a treatment facility pursuant to present law and the transport shall be in line with the patient's rights to receive care.

(Amends R.S. 28:2(39)(a)(intro. para.) and 53(F))