
DIGEST

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HB 849 Original

2024 Regular Session

Illg

Abstract: Establishes procedures for healthcare professionals providing care for patients suffering from behavioral health issues.

Proposed law states that if patient confined to inpatient behavioral healthcare services as a result of an emergency certificate issued by a physician, the inpatient healthcare facility shall make a reasonable effort to do all of the following:

- (1) Notify any healthcare professional treating the patient by providing behavioral healthcare services that the patient is to be discharged. The notice shall be transmitted to the appropriate individuals at least 24 hours prior to discharge.
- (2) Notify any healthcare professional scheduled to provide follow-up behavioral healthcare services of the patient's discharge 24 hours prior to discharge. The notice shall include a summary of the patient's condition and any medically relevant information.
- (3) Provide the patient educational documents prior to discharge explaining the signs of self-harm and the importance of seeking follow-up care.

Proposed law requires a healthcare professional that offers behavioral health services to accept documents from the family, friends, loved ones, and caregivers of the patient about the patient related to the patient's behavioral health issues.

(Adds R.S. 28:53.1 and R.S. 40:1165.1(A)(5))