

HB 1329 -- Volunteer Health Services Act

Sponsor: Sater

This bill establishes the Volunteer Health Services Act which allows a licensed health care provider to render volunteer professional health care services for a sponsoring organization. Any person with a suspended or revoked license or who renders services outside the scope of his or her license is not eligible to provide services under the act. Before a health care professional can provide volunteer services, the sponsoring organization must register with the Department of Health and Senior Services and pay a \$50 fee. A sponsoring organization must file a quarterly voluntary services report with the department, keep its records of health care provider volunteers up to date, and maintain the records for five years following the service rendered by the health care provider volunteer. Insurers providing professional liability coverage to health care providers on or after August 28, 2010, cannot exclude coverage to a health care provider who volunteers his or her health care services if the sponsoring organization and the health care provider comply with the provisions of the bill.

Health care providers volunteering their services will not be liable for any civil damages for any act or omission resulting from their service unless there was gross negligence or willful misconduct. Volunteers cannot receive any form of direct or indirect compensation, benefits, or considerations for their health care services and must perform acts within the scope of their professional license and in compliance with all health care regulations.

Any volunteer crisis response team member who participates in a crisis intervention will not be liable in tort for any personal injuries or emotional distress of any participant to the intervention that is caused by the act or omission of the team member during an intervention with certain specified exceptions.