

HB 633 with HCA 1 -- COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENTS

SPONSOR: Burlison

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 15 to 1.

This bill authorizes an advanced practice registered nurse and a collaborating physician to enter into agreements allowing an advanced practice registered nurse to communicate with the collaborating physician or designated physician either in person or electronically for consultation when diagnosing and treating acutely or chronically ill or injured patients.

The bill requires a report regarding an acutely or chronically ill or injured patient to be filed with the patient's primary health care provider within 14 days of the encounter. If a patient does not have a primary care provider, the advanced practice registered nurse is required to provide the patient with a list of physicians in the area which are accepting new patients.

The bill makes it the responsibility of the collaborating physician to determine that the advanced practice registered nurse has the ability to competently perform a delegated medical act by documenting the completion of a sufficient period of time during which the advanced practice registered nurse must practice with the collaborating physician continuously present before practicing in a setting where the collaborating physician is not continuously present. The collaborating physician will, in his or her own discretion, determine the appropriate length of time that the advanced practice registered nurse will practice with the collaborative physician present.

HCA 1 - Adds physician assistants and assistant physicians to enter into collaborative agreements. The amendment also contains provisions regarding physician availability and chart review.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that with the introduction of retail health clinics there has been a significant decline in emergency room visits. Many of the rules regarding collaborative arrangements are very cumbersome, by allowing these health care extenders a little more freedom in handling non-acute cases it will provide easier access to health care.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Burlison; Walgreens; and CVS Health.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill say that this bill codifies

regulations, decreases access and increases costs. The bill needs less restrictive language. Opponents also feel there needs to be more physician involvement.

Testifying against the bill were Delilah Pennington; Missouri State Medical Association; Missouri Academy Of Family Physicians; Missouri Hospital Association; and Jeffery D. Davis, DO, Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons.