

HCS HB 712 -- NOTICE TO PATIENTS (Solon)

Committee of Origin: Select Committee on Health and Mental Health Policy

This bill requires all licensed hospitals to require admission staff to provide written notice to each patient regarding whether the patient is admitted to the hospital under observational status during the intake process, at any time the patient's status changes, and upon discharge. Upon discharge the hospital admission staff must provide written notice to the patient regarding the duration of the patient's inpatient status, observational status, or both.

Each written notice must include:

- (1) A statement regarding whether the patient is being admitted to the hospital under inpatient status or observational status;
- (2) A statement that observation status may affect the patient's Medicare, MO HealthNet, or private insurance coverage for hospital services including medications and pharmaceutical supplies and for home- and community-based care or rehabilitative services at a skilled nursing facility if needed upon discharge from the hospital; and
- (3) A recommendation that the patient contact his or her health insurance provider to better understand the implications of a patient's placement in observation status.