HOSPICE: PATIENT ADVOCATE

H.B. 4358 (H-1): FLOOR ANALYSIS

Senate Fiscal Agency P. O. Box 30036 Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536



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House Bill 4358 (Substitute H-1 as reported without amendment)

Sponsor: Representative Gerald Law

House Committee: Senior Health, Security and Retirement

Senate Committee: Health Policy

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Estates and Protected Individuals Code to allow a patient advocate to have a patient placed under hospice care. The bill would take effect April 1, 2000.

Under the Code, a "patient advocate" is an individual designated to exercise powers concerning another individual's care, custody, and medical treatment. The Code allows an individual who is 18 or older and of sound mind to designate another individual who is 18 or older as his or her patient advocate. A patient advocate may exercise his or her powers only when the patient is unable to participate in medical decisions. The Code contains a list of a patient advocate's rights, responsibilities, and authority.

(The Code (Public Act 386 of 1998) recodified the Revised Probate Code, and will not take effect until April 1, 2000.)

MCL 700.5509 Legislative Analyst: G. Towne

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Date Completed: 5-21-99 Fiscal Analyst: B. Bowerman