



CS/HB 843 Patient Access to Primary Care and Specialist Providers

- **CS/HB 843** requires hospitals to notify primary care or specialty physicians when their patients are admitted, and allows patients to request their doctors to be consulted on their plan of care.
 - The bill requires hospitals to notify a patient's primary care or specialist provider, if any, within 24 hours of the patient's admission to the hospital.
 - The bill closes gaps in provider communication and promotes continuity of care from the inpatient to outpatient setting.
- Additionally, the bill requires the hospital to inform patients immediately upon admission that they may request to have their primary care or specialist provider consulted during the development of their plan of care. If the patient makes this request, the treating physician at the hospital must make reasonable efforts to consult with the patient's primary care or specialist provider during the patient's admission.
- The bill requires the hospital to notify the patient's primary care or specialist provider, if any, of the patient's discharge within 24 hours and provide the discharge summary and any related information or records to the primary care or specialist provider within 7 days.
- A patient's own physician has the comprehensive knowledge of the patient's health history that can be vital during hospital admissions. Patients experience better outcomes when their health care providers timely communicate with one another and coordinate care across health settings.