

**SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 4606**

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled  
"Public health code,"  
by amending section 20201 (MCL 333.20201), as amended by 2001 PA  
240.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1           Sec. 20201. (1) A health facility or agency that provides  
2 services directly to patients or residents and is licensed under  
3 this article shall adopt a policy describing the rights and  
4 responsibilities of patients or residents admitted to the health  
5 facility or agency. Except for a licensed health maintenance  
6 organization which shall comply with chapter 35 of the insurance  
7 code of 1956, 1956 PA 218, MCL 500.3501 to 500.3580, the policy  
8 shall be posted at a public place in the health facility or agency  
9 and shall be provided to each member of the health facility or

1 agency staff. Patients or residents shall be treated in accordance  
2 with the policy.

3 (2) The policy describing the rights and responsibilities of  
4 patients or residents required under subsection (1) shall include,  
5 as a minimum, all of the following:

6 (a) A patient or resident shall not be denied appropriate care  
7 on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, age,  
8 disability, marital status, sexual preference, or source of  
9 payment.

10 (b) An individual who is or has been a patient or resident is  
11 entitled to inspect, or receive for a reasonable fee, a copy of his  
12 or her medical record upon request **IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MEDICAL**  
13 **RECORDS ACCESS ACT, 2004 PA 47, MCL 333.26261 TO 333.26271. -A**  
14 **EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PERMITTED OR REQUIRED UNDER THE HEALTH**  
15 **INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1996, PUBLIC LAW**  
16 **104-191, OR REGULATIONS PROMULGATED UNDER THAT ACT, 45 CFR PARTS**  
17 **160 AND 164, A** third party shall not be given a copy of the  
18 patient's or resident's medical record without prior authorization  
19 of the patient or resident.

20 (c) A patient or resident is entitled to confidential  
21 treatment of personal and medical records, and may refuse their  
22 release to a person outside the health facility or agency except as  
23 required because of a transfer to another health care facility, ~~or~~  
24 as required by law or third party payment contract, **OR AS PERMITTED**  
25 **OR REQUIRED UNDER THE HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND**  
26 **ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1996, PUBLIC LAW 104-191, OR REGULATIONS**  
27 **PROMULGATED UNDER THAT ACT, 45 CFR PARTS 160 AND 164.**

1 (d) A patient or resident is entitled to privacy, to the  
2 extent feasible, in treatment and in caring for personal needs with  
3 consideration, respect, and full recognition of his or her dignity  
4 and individuality.

5 (e) A patient or resident is entitled to receive adequate and  
6 appropriate care, and to receive, from the appropriate individual  
7 within the health facility or agency, information about his or her  
8 medical condition, proposed course of treatment, and prospects for  
9 recovery, in terms that the patient or resident can understand,  
10 unless medically contraindicated as documented by the attending  
11 physician in the medical record.

12 (f) A patient or resident is entitled to refuse treatment to  
13 the extent provided by law and to be informed of the consequences  
14 of that refusal. If a refusal of treatment prevents a health  
15 facility or agency or its staff from providing appropriate care  
16 according to ethical and professional standards, the relationship  
17 with the patient or resident may be terminated upon reasonable  
18 notice.

19 (g) A patient or resident is entitled to exercise his or her  
20 rights as a patient or resident and as a citizen, and to this end  
21 may present grievances or recommend changes in policies and  
22 services on behalf of himself or herself or others to the health  
23 facility or agency staff, to governmental officials, or to another  
24 person of his or her choice within or outside the health facility  
25 or agency, free from restraint, interference, coercion,  
26 discrimination, or reprisal. A patient or resident is entitled to  
27 information about the health facility's or agency's policies and

1 procedures for initiation, review, and resolution of patient or  
2 resident complaints.

3 (h) A patient or resident is entitled to information  
4 concerning an experimental procedure proposed as a part of his or  
5 her care and has the right to refuse to participate in the  
6 experimental procedure without jeopardizing his or her continuing  
7 care.

8 (i) A patient or resident is entitled to receive and examine  
9 an explanation of his or her bill regardless of the source of  
10 payment and to receive, upon request, information relating to  
11 financial assistance available through the health facility or  
12 agency.

13 (j) A patient or resident is entitled to know who is  
14 responsible for and who is providing his or her direct care, is  
15 entitled to receive information concerning his or her continuing  
16 health needs and alternatives for meeting those needs, and to be  
17 involved in his or her discharge planning, if appropriate.

18 (k) A patient or resident is entitled to associate and have  
19 private communications and consultations with his or her physician,  
20 attorney, or any other person of his or her choice and to send and  
21 receive personal mail unopened on the same day it is received at  
22 the health facility or agency, unless medically contraindicated as  
23 documented by the attending physician in the medical record. A  
24 patient's or resident's civil and religious liberties, including  
25 the right to independent personal decisions and the right to  
26 knowledge of available choices, shall not be infringed and the  
27 health facility or agency shall encourage and assist in the fullest

1 possible exercise of these rights. A patient or resident may meet  
2 with, and participate in, the activities of social, religious, and  
3 community groups at his or her discretion, unless medically  
4 contraindicated as documented by the attending physician in the  
5 medical record.

6 (l) A patient or resident is entitled to be free from mental  
7 and physical abuse and from physical and chemical restraints,  
8 except those restraints authorized in writing by the attending  
9 physician for a specified and limited time or as are necessitated  
10 by an emergency to protect the patient or resident from injury to  
11 self or others, in which case the restraint may only be applied by  
12 a qualified professional who shall set forth in writing the  
13 circumstances requiring the use of restraints and who shall  
14 promptly report the action to the attending physician. In case of a  
15 chemical restraint, a physician shall be consulted within 24 hours  
16 after the commencement of the chemical restraint.

17 (m) A patient or resident is entitled to be free from  
18 performing services for the health facility or agency that are not  
19 included for therapeutic purposes in the plan of care.

20 (n) A patient or resident is entitled to information about the  
21 health facility or agency rules and regulations affecting patient  
22 or resident care and conduct.

23 (o) A patient or resident is entitled to adequate and  
24 appropriate pain and symptom management as a basic and essential  
25 element of his or her medical treatment.

26 (3) The following additional requirements for the policy  
27 described in subsection (2) apply to licensees under parts 213 and

1 217:

2 (a) The policy shall be provided to each nursing home patient  
3 or home for the aged resident upon admission, and the staff of the  
4 facility shall be trained and involved in the implementation of the  
5 policy.

6 (b) Each nursing home patient may associate and communicate  
7 privately with persons of his or her choice. Reasonable, regular  
8 visiting hours, which shall be not less than 8 hours per day, and  
9 which shall take into consideration the special circumstances of  
10 each visitor, shall be established for patients to receive  
11 visitors. A patient may be visited by the patient's attorney or by  
12 representatives of the departments named in section 20156, during  
13 other than established visiting hours. Reasonable privacy shall be  
14 afforded for visitation of a patient who shares a room with another  
15 patient. Each patient shall have reasonable access to a telephone.  
16 A married nursing home patient or home for the aged resident is  
17 entitled to meet privately with his or her spouse in a room that  
18 assures privacy. If both spouses are residents in the same  
19 facility, they are entitled to share a room unless medically  
20 contraindicated and documented by the attending physician in the  
21 medical record.

22 (c) A nursing home patient or home for the aged resident is  
23 entitled to retain and use personal clothing and possessions as  
24 space permits, unless to do so would infringe upon the rights of  
25 other patients or residents, or unless medically contraindicated as  
26 documented by the attending physician in the medical record. Each  
27 nursing home patient or home for the aged resident shall be

1 provided with reasonable space. At the request of a patient, a  
2 nursing home shall provide for the safekeeping of personal effects,  
3 funds, and other property of a patient in accordance with section  
4 21767, except that a nursing home is not required to provide for  
5 the safekeeping of a property that would impose an unreasonable  
6 burden on the nursing home.

7 (d) A nursing home patient or home for the aged resident is  
8 entitled to the opportunity to participate in the planning of his  
9 or her medical treatment. A nursing home patient shall be fully  
10 informed by the attending physician of the patient's medical  
11 condition unless medically contraindicated as documented by a  
12 physician in the medical record. Each nursing home patient shall be  
13 afforded the opportunity to discharge himself or herself from the  
14 nursing home.

15 (e) A home for the aged resident may be transferred or  
16 discharged only for medical reasons, for his or her welfare or that  
17 of other residents, or for nonpayment of his or her stay, except as  
18 provided by title XVIII or title XIX. A nursing home patient may be  
19 transferred or discharged only as provided in sections 21773 to  
20 21777. A nursing home patient or home for the aged resident is  
21 entitled to be given reasonable advance notice to ensure orderly  
22 transfer or discharge. Those actions shall be documented in the  
23 medical record.

24 (f) A nursing home patient or home for the aged resident is  
25 entitled to be fully informed before or at the time of admission  
26 and during stay of services available in the facility, and of the  
27 related charges including any charges for services not covered

1 under title XVIII, or not covered by the facility's basic per diem  
2 rate. The statement of services provided by the facility shall be  
3 in writing and shall include those required to be offered on an as-  
4 needed basis.

5 (g) A nursing home patient or home for the aged resident is  
6 entitled to manage his or her own financial affairs, or to have at  
7 least a quarterly accounting of personal financial transactions  
8 undertaken in his or her behalf by the facility during a period of  
9 time the patient or resident has delegated those responsibilities  
10 to the facility. In addition, a patient or resident is entitled to  
11 receive each month from the facility an itemized statement setting  
12 forth the services paid for by or on behalf of the patient and the  
13 services rendered by the facility. The admission of a patient to a  
14 nursing home does not confer on the nursing home or its owner,  
15 administrator, employees, or representatives the authority to  
16 manage, use, or dispose of a patient's property.

17 (h) A nursing home patient or a person authorized by the  
18 patient in writing may inspect and copy the patient's personal and  
19 medical records. The records shall be made available for inspection  
20 and copying by the nursing home within a reasonable time, not  
21 exceeding 1 week, after the receipt of a written request.

22 (i) If a nursing home patient desires treatment by a licensed  
23 member of the healing arts, the treatment shall be made available  
24 unless it is medically contraindicated, and the medical  
25 contraindication is justified in the patient's medical record by  
26 the attending physician.

27 (j) A nursing home patient has the right to have his or her



1 parents, if a minor, or his or her spouse, next of kin, or  
2 patient's representative, if an adult, stay at the facility 24  
3 hours a day if the patient is considered terminally ill by the  
4 physician responsible for the patient's care.

5 (k) Each nursing home patient shall be provided with meals  
6 that meet the recommended dietary allowances for that patient's age  
7 and sex and that may be modified according to special dietary needs  
8 or ability to chew.

9 (l) Each nursing home patient has the right to receive  
10 representatives of approved organizations as provided in section  
11 21763.

12 (4) A nursing home, its owner, administrator, employee, or  
13 representative shall not discharge, harass, or retaliate or  
14 discriminate against a patient because the patient has exercised a  
15 right protected under this section.

16 (5) In the case of a nursing home patient, the rights  
17 enumerated in subsection (2)(c), (g), and (k) and subsection  
18 (3)(d), (g), and (h) may be exercised by the patient's  
19 representative.

20 (6) A nursing home patient or home for the aged resident is  
21 entitled to be fully informed, as evidenced by the patient's or  
22 resident's written acknowledgment, before or at the time of  
23 admission and during stay, of the policy required by this section.  
24 The policy shall provide that if a patient or resident is  
25 adjudicated incompetent and not restored to legal capacity, the  
26 rights and responsibilities set forth in this section shall be  
27 exercised by a person designated by the patient or resident. The

1 health facility or agency shall provide proper forms for the  
2 patient or resident to provide for the designation of this person  
3 at the time of admission.

4 (7) This section does not prohibit a health facility or agency  
5 from establishing and recognizing additional patients' rights.

6 (8) As used in this section:

7 (a) "Patient's representative" means that term as defined in  
8 section 21703.

9 (b) "Title XVIII" means title XVIII of the social security  
10 act, ~~chapter 531, 49 Stat. 620, 42 U.S.C. 1395 to 1395b, 1395b-2,~~  
11 ~~1395b-6 to 1395b-7, 1395c to 1395i, 1395i-2 to 1395i-5, 1395j to~~  
12 ~~1395t, 1395u to 1395w, 1395w-2 to 1395w-4, 1395w-21 to 1395w-28,~~  
13 ~~1395x to 1395yy, and 1395bbb to 1395ggg~~ **42 USC 1395 TO 1395HHH.**

14 (c) "Title XIX" means title XIX of the social security act,  
15 ~~chapter 531, 49 Stat. 620, 42 U.S.C. 1396 to 1396f, 1396g-1 to~~  
16 ~~1396r-6, and 1396r-8~~ **42 USC 1396 to 1396v.**