



ARIZONA STATE SENATE

Fifty-Fifth Legislature, Second Regular Session

FACT SHEET FOR H.B. 2633

hospitalizations; family visitation

Purpose

Requires hospitals to develop a visitation policy that allows a patient to have daily in-person visitation by a designated visitor and allows, if a physician denies visitation, the patient or the patient's representative to request a meeting with the physician and one of outlined hospital officials to receive a review and explanation of the decision to deny visitation.

Background

Current statute requires a hospital to provide notice of its visitation policy to any patient or the patient's representative. If a hospital's visitation policy allows in-person visitation of any kind and if authorized by the patient or the patient's representative, the hospital must facilitate the ability of clergy to visit the patient in person for religious purposes. Clergy must comply with reasonable health and safety precautions imposed by hospitals in connection with in-person visitation. If a hospital's visitation policy does not allow in-person visitation of any kind at all times or temporarily for health and safety reasons, the hospital must facilitate a virtual clergy visit using communication technology ([A.R.S. § 36-407.01](#)).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Requires hospitals to develop a visitation policy that allows a patient to have daily in-person visitation by a designated visitor of the patient's choice, including the patient's spouse, parent or child.
2. Requires a hospital's visitation policies to ensure that the patient and the patient's visitors may have physical contact, especially during end-of-life visitation, unless a physician determines based on the patient's condition that the visitation does not meet health and safety standards or is reasonably likely to harm the patient.
3. Allows, if a physician denies visitation with a patient, the patient or the patient's representative to request a meeting with the physician and the hospital's chief medical officer, chief of staff or chief executive officer to receive a review and explanation of the physician's decision to deny visitation.
4. Requires all hospital visitors to comply with reasonable health and safety precautions imposed by the hospital in connection with the visit.

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5. Exempts the Arizona State Hospital (ASH) or any other licensed facility under the jurisdiction of the ASH Superintendent from the patient visitation requirement.
6. Designates this legislation as the *Glenn Martin Act*.
7. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

House Action

JUD	2/16/22	DPA	9-0-0-1
3 rd Read	2/24/22		57-2-1

Prepared by Senate Research

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MM/MC/sr