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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SIXTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. **921**

February 19, 2009

Authored by Fritz, Ruud, Haws, Clark and Thissen

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Health Care and Human Services Policy and Oversight

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to occupational safety and health; requiring safe patient handling plans
1.3 in clinical settings; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, sections 182.6551;
1.4 182.6552, by adding a subdivision; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota
1.5 Statutes, chapter 182.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 182.6551, is amended to read:

1.8 **182.6551 CITATION; SAFE PATIENT HANDLING ACT.**

1.9 Sections 182.6551 to ~~182.6553~~ 182.6554 may be cited as the "Safe Patient Handling
1.10 Act."

1.11 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 182.6552, is amended by adding a subdivision
1.12 to read:

1.13 Subd. 5. **Clinical settings that move patients.** "Clinical settings that move
1.14 patients" means physician, dental, and other outpatient care facilities, except for outpatient
1.15 surgical settings, where service requires movement of patients from point to point as part
1.16 of the scope of service.

1.17 Sec. 3. **[182.6554] SAFE PATIENT HANDLING IN CLINICAL SETTINGS.**

1.18 Subdivision 1. **Safe patient handling plan required.** (a) By July 1, 2010, every
1.19 clinical setting that moves patients in the state shall develop a written safe patient handling
1.20 plan to achieve by January 1, 2012, the goal of ensuring the safe handling of patients by
1.21 minimizing manual lifting of patients by direct patient care workers and by utilizing
1.22 safe patient handling equipment.

2.1 (b) The plan shall address:

2.2 (1) assessment of risks with regard to patient handling that considers the patient
2.3 population and environment of care;

2.4 (2) the acquisition of an adequate supply of appropriate safe patient handling
2.5 equipment;

2.6 (3) initial and ongoing training of direct patient care workers on the use of this
2.7 equipment;

2.8 (4) procedures to ensure that physical plant modifications and major construction
2.9 projects are consistent with plan goals; and

2.10 (5) periodic evaluations of the safe patient handling plan. A health care organization
2.11 with more than one covered clinical setting that moves patients may establish a plan at
2.12 each clinical setting or establish one plan to serve this function for all the clinical settings.

2.13 Subd. 2. **Facilities with existing programs.** A clinical setting that moves patients
2.14 that has already adopted a safe patient handling plan that satisfies the requirements of
2.15 subdivision 1, or a clinical setting that moves patients that is covered by a safe patient
2.16 handling plan that is covered under and consistent with section 182.6553, is considered
2.17 to be in compliance with the requirements of this section.

2.18 Subd. 3. **Training materials.** The commissioner shall make training materials on
2.19 implementation of this section available at no cost to all clinical settings that move patients
2.20 as part of the training and education duties of the commissioner under section 182.673.

2.21 Subd. 4. **Enforcement.** This section shall be enforced by the commissioner under
2.22 section 182.661. A violation of this section is subject to the penalties provided under
2.23 section 182.666.