

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

4 FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 2687

By: Hasenbeck

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7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8 An Act relating to public health; creating the No  
9 Patient Left Alone Act; providing for minor and adult  
10 patients to designate a visitor with unrestricted  
11 visitation; prohibiting termination, suspension, or  
12 waiver of visitation rights by certain parties;  
13 providing certain limitations; prohibiting hospitals  
14 from requiring patient waiver of certain rights;  
15 requiring posting of certain informational materials;  
16 providing for codification; and providing an  
17 effective date.

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

19 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
20 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-706a of Title 63, unless there  
21 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

22 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "No Patient Left  
23 Alone Act".

24 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-706b of Title 63, unless there  
is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

1           A. Subject to the provisions of subsection D of this section,  
2 each minor who is admitted to a hospital licensed pursuant to  
3 Section 1-702 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes has the right to  
4 have a parent, guardian, or person standing in loco parentis who  
5 shall have the unrestricted privilege of being present while the  
6 minor patient is receiving hospital care.

7           B. Subject to the provisions of subsection D of this section,  
8 each adult who is admitted to a hospital licensed pursuant to  
9 Section 1-702 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes has the right to  
10 designate a spouse, family member, or friend who shall have the  
11 unrestricted privilege of being present while the adult patient is  
12 receiving hospital care.

13           C. The rights specified in this section may not be terminated,  
14 suspended, or waived by the hospital, the State Department of  
15 Health, or any governmental entity, notwithstanding declarations of  
16 emergency declared by the Governor or the Legislature.

17           D. Hospitals may require visitors to wear personal protective  
18 equipment, provided that any such required equipment shall be  
19 provided by the hospital. Nothing in this section shall be  
20 construed to require a hospital to allow a visitor to enter an  
21 operating room or other typically restricted area or to remain  
22 present during the administration of emergency care in critical  
23 situations.

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1 E. No hospital licensed pursuant to Section 1-702 of Title 63  
2 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall require a patient to waive the rights  
3 specified in this section.

4 F. Each hospital licensed pursuant to Section 1-702 of Title 63  
5 of the Oklahoma Statutes shall post in a conspicuous place on the  
6 licensed premises informational materials developed by the State  
7 Department of Health explaining the rights specified in this  
8 section.

9 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

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11 58-1-7756 AB 02/24/21

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