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S.120

Introduced by Senators Carris, Ayer, Hartwell, Maynard, McCormack and

Mullin

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Health; health insurance; health care facilities; applications

Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to require hospitals and other health care facilities to ask patients without health care coverage to fill out an application for the state's health programs.

An act relating to health care applications at points of service

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 3 V.S.A. § 2222a is amended to read:

§ 2222a. HEALTH CARE SYSTEM REFORM; IMPROVING QUALITY

AND AFFORDABILITY

* * *

(c) Vermont's health care system reform initiatives include:

* * *

(10) The uniform hospital uncompensated ~~ear~~ care policies.

* * *

1 (f)(1) The secretary shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 25 of this title to
2 require hospitals and other health care facilities licensed in this state to ask
3 individuals without health care coverage who request or receive services at the
4 facility to fill out a provided application for the state's health programs,
5 including Medicaid, Dr. Dynasaur, the Vermont health access plan, and
6 Catamount Health. The rules shall permit an individual to refuse to complete
7 the application and shall not impose a penalty for such refusal, but shall require
8 facilities to request at each visit that the individual complete the application.

9 (2) For purposes of this subsection, "health care facility" means all
10 institutions, whether public or private, proprietary or nonprofit, which offer
11 diagnosis, treatment, or inpatient or ambulatory care to two or more unrelated
12 persons, and the buildings in which those services are offered. The term shall
13 not apply to any facility operated by religious groups relying solely on spiritual
14 means through prayer or healing.