**§1831. Patient referrals**

**1. Provision of information.**  In order to provide for informed patient or resident decisions, a hospital or nursing facility shall provide a standardized list of licensed providers of care and services and available physicians for all patients or residents prior to discharge for whom home health care, hospice care, acute rehabilitation care, a hospital swing bed as defined in section 328, subsection 15 or nursing care is needed. The list must include a clear and conspicuous notice of the rights of the patient or resident regarding choice of providers.

A. For all patients or residents requiring home health care or hospice care, the list must include all licensed home health care and hospice providers that request to be listed and any branch offices, including addresses and phone numbers, that serve the area in which the patient or resident resides. [PL 2013, c. 214, §1 (AMD).]

B. For all patients or residents requiring nursing facility care or a hospital swing bed, the list must include all appropriate facilities that request to be listed that serve the area in which the patient or resident resides or wishes to reside and the physicians available within those facilities that request to be listed. [PL 2013, c. 214, §1 (AMD).]

C. The hospital or nursing facility shall disclose to the patient or resident any direct or indirect financial interest the hospital or nursing facility has in the nursing facility or home health care provider. [PL 1997, c. 337, §1 (NEW).]

[PL 2013, c. 214, §1 (AMD).]

**2. Rulemaking.**  The department shall establish by rule guidelines necessary to carry out the purposes of this section, including but not limited to the standardized list referenced in subsection 1 and contact information for the long-term care ombudsman program under section 5107‑A. Rules adopted under this section are routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2‑A.

[PL 2013, c. 214, §1 (AMD).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1997, c. 337, §1 (NEW). PL 2013, c. 214, §1 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the First Regular and First Special Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through November 1. 2023
. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.