

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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North to the Future

Senator Cathy Giessel
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CS for Senate Bill 72(L&C) **Sectional Overview**

Section 1. AS 18.20 adds new sections:

Sec. 18.20.500: Requires hospital, before discharge, assess the patient, provide patient opportunity to designate a caregiver, who consents/agrees to provide patient with aftercare

Sec. 18.20.510: Requires a hospital to provide opportunity for a designated caregiver to participate in the discharge planning of the patient; and that the hospital provide training and/or instruction to the designated caregiver on how to perform medical and nursing aftercare prior to patient's discharge

Sec. 18.20.520: Requires a hospital to notify the designated caregiver of the patient's discharge or transfer

Sec. 18.20.530: Directs the hospital to adopt and maintain written discharge policies. The policies must comply with this chapter. The written policy must specify requirements for naming of the designated caregiver and those policies may incorporate best practices for hospital discharge planning, such as those outlined in Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS)and that the discharge plan is appropriate for the patient's condition.

The discharge plan may not delay a discharge or transfer of a patient or oblige hospital to divulge patient's health information to the designated caregiver without patient's consent

Sec. 18.20.540: The hospital and its contractors are protected from lawsuit in regard to the discharge planning of a patient

Sec. 18.20.550: This chapter may not interfere with or supersede the powers/duties of an agent or legal guardian acting upon a health care directive

Sec. 18.20.590: Provides definitions

Section 2: effective date of January 1, 2017.