

CHAPTER 93
REGULATION OF HOSPITALS
AND HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

H.F. 528

AN ACT relating to the regulation of hospitals and health care facilities by the department of inspections and appeals, including investigations of complaints against health care facilities and rules relating to authentication of certain orders by practitioners, and providing an immediate effective date.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. Section 135B.7A, Code 2007, is amended to read as follows:
135B.7A PROCEDURES — ORDERS.

The department shall adopt rules that require hospitals to establish procedures for authentication of ~~medication and standing~~ all verbal orders by a practitioner within a period not to exceed thirty days following a patient's discharge.

Sec. 2. Section 135C.38, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code 2007, is amended to read as follows:

a. Upon receipt of a complaint made in accordance with section 135C.37, the department or resident advocate committee shall make a preliminary review of the complaint. Unless the department or committee concludes that the complaint is intended to harass a facility or a licensee or is without reasonable basis, ~~it the department or committee shall within twenty working days of receipt of the complaint make or cause to be made an on-site inspection of the health care facility which is the subject of the complaint. within the time period determined pursuant to the following guidelines, which period shall commence on the date of receipt of the complaint:~~

(1) For nursing facilities, an on-site inspection shall be initiated as follows:

(a) Within two working days for a complaint determined by the department or committee to be an alleged immediate jeopardy situation.

(b) Within ten working days for a complaint determined by the department or committee to be an alleged high-level, nonimmediate jeopardy situation.

(c) Within forty-five calendar days for a complaint determined by the department or committee to be an alleged nonimmediate jeopardy situation, other than a high-level situation.

(2) For all other types of health care facilities, an on-site inspection shall be initiated as follows:

(a) Within two working days for a complaint determined by the department or committee to be an alleged immediate jeopardy situation.

(b) Within twenty working days for a complaint determined by the department or committee to be an alleged high-level, nonimmediate jeopardy situation.

(c) Within forty-five calendar days for a complaint determined by the department or committee to be an alleged nonimmediate jeopardy situation, other than a high-level situation.

Sec. 3. 2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 93, section 2, is repealed.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. The section of this Act repealing 2001 Iowa Acts, chapter 93, section 2, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

Approved April 20, 2007