

135C.37 Complaints alleging violations confidentiality.

A person may request an inspection of a health care facility by filing with the department, resident advocate committee of the facility, or the long-term care resident's advocate as defined in section 231.4, subsection 16, a complaint of an alleged violation of applicable requirements of this chapter or the rules adopted pursuant to this chapter. A person alleging abuse or neglect of a resident with a developmental disability or with mental illness may also file a complaint with the protection and advocacy agency designated pursuant to section 135B.9 or section 135C.2. A copy of a complaint filed with the resident advocate committee or the long-term care resident's advocate shall be forwarded to the department. The complaint shall state in a reasonably specific manner the basis of the complaint, and a statement of the nature of the complaint shall be delivered to the facility involved at the time of the inspection. The name of the person who files a complaint with the department, resident advocate committee, or the long-term care resident's advocate shall be kept confidential and shall not be subject to discovery, subpoena, or other means of legal compulsion for its release to a person other than department employees involved in the investigation of the complaint.

[C77, 79, 81, § 135C.37]

84 Acts, ch 1227, § 3; 85 Acts, ch 186, § 2; 89 Acts, ch 241, § 3; 89 Acts, ch 321, § 28; 91 Acts, ch 107, §4; 99 Acts, ch 129, §6