

FEB 26 1997

HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE 363  
BY RICHARDSON, WITT, CONNORS,  
and CHURCHILL

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the required standards for hospital licensure  
2 relating to protocols for patients with suicidal indications.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 363

1 Section 1. Section 135B.7, Code 1997, is amended by adding  
2 the following new unnumbered paragraph:

3 NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. The department shall adopt rules  
4 requiring hospitals to establish emergency room protocols  
5 which provide for a psychiatric evaluation of patients with  
6 suicidal indications. The protocols shall include prescribed  
7 steps for remediation for a patient with suicidal indications  
8 including, but not limited to, an observation period or  
9 hospitalization under chapter 229 for further medical or  
10 psychiatric treatment.

11 EXPLANATION

12 This bill requires the department of inspections and  
13 appeals to adopt rules to require hospitals, as a standard for  
14 licensure of a hospital, to establish emergency room protocols  
15 for psychiatric evaluation of patients with suicidal  
16 indications. The steps to be used under the protocols are to  
17 include, but are not limited to, an observation period or  
18 hospitalization for further treatment.

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