

Senate File 2217 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2217

BY JOHNSON

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to closed meetings of a public hospital.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 21.5, subsection 1, paragraph 1, Code
2 2014, is amended to read as follows:

3 1. To discuss patient care quality and process improvement
4 initiatives in a meeting of a public hospital or to discuss
5 marketing and pricing strategies ~~or similar~~, strategic
6 planning, and other proprietary information in a meeting of a
7 public hospital, where public disclosure of such information
8 would harm such a hospital's competitive position when no
9 public purpose would be served by public disclosure. The
10 minutes and the audio recording of a closed session under
11 this paragraph shall be available for public inspection when
12 the public disclosure would no longer harm the hospital's
13 competitive position. For purposes of this paragraph, "*public*
14 *hospital*" means a hospital licensed pursuant to chapter 135B
15 and governed pursuant to chapter 145A, 226, 347, 347A, or 392.
16 This paragraph does not apply to the information required to
17 be disclosed pursuant to section 347.13, subsection 11, or to
18 any discussions relating to terms or conditions of employment,
19 including but not limited to compensation of an officer or
20 employee or group of officers or employees.

21 EXPLANATION

22 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
23 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

24 Under Iowa's open meetings law (Iowa Code chapter 21),
25 a meeting of a public hospital may be closed to the public
26 to discuss patient care quality and process improvement
27 initiatives or to discuss marketing and pricing strategies
28 or similar proprietary information, where public disclosure
29 of such information would harm the hospital's competitive
30 position. This bill amends this provision to also allow a
31 public hospital to hold a closed meeting to discuss strategic
32 planning and other proprietary information of the public
33 hospital where public disclosure of such information would harm
34 the hospital's competitive position.