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H.B. 229
135th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Passed by the House

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Sweeney and Patton

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SUMMARY

- Requires health care practitioners who are primarily responsible for caring for a patient diagnosed with epilepsy to provide written information about sudden, unexplained death in epilepsy (“SUDEP”) risk factors and conditions and nonprofit organizations that can provide information and support services for patients with epilepsy.
- Names the act the Brenna Brossard SUDEP Awareness Act.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Health care practitioner responsibilities related to SUDEP

The bill requires health care practitioners who have the primary responsibility for the treatment or care of a patient who has been diagnosed with epilepsy to provide the patient with written information about sudden, unexplained death in epilepsy (“SUDEP”).¹ SUDEP, as defined by the bill, is sudden, unexplained death in patients with epilepsy, with or without evidence of seizure.²

The provided information must include current, evidence-based information developed by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on SUDEP risk factors and conditions and contact information for nonprofit organizations that provide information and support services for epilepsy conditions.³

¹ R.C. 3701.1311.

² R.C. 3701.1311(A)(2).

³ R.C. 3701.1311(B).

The health care practitioners to which the bill applies are:⁴

- Physicians practicing medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery;
- Advanced practice registered nurses designated as clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse-midwives, or certified nurse practitioners; and
- Physician assistants.

Health care practitioners providing treatment during an emergency situation are exempt from the bill's requirements.⁵

Director of Health responsibilities

The Director of Health is required to post a link on the Department of Health's website to the CDC's information page on SUDEP.⁶

The Director may, in the Director's discretion, add information to the website if any local or national organization that provides education or services related to epilepsy conditions requests that their information be included on the Department's website.⁷

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	06-27-23
Reported, H. Health Provider Services	12-13-23
Passed House (91-2)	01-10-24

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⁴ R.C. 3701.1311(A)(1).

⁵ R.C. 3701.1311(B).

⁶ R.C. 3701.1311(C)(1).

⁷ R.C. 3701.1311(C)(2).