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H.252

Introduced by Representatives Canfield of Fair Haven, Cheney of Norwich,
Hebert of Vernon, Keenan of St. Albans City, Klein of East
Montpelier, McCormack of Burlington, Shaw of Derby, Till of
Jericho, and Yantachka of Charlotte

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Health; prescription drugs; hospitals; long-term care facilities;
pharmacies

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require
hospitals and long-term care facilities to communicate discharge prescriptions
and a discharge medication summary directly to the pharmacy of the patient's
choice.

An act relating to health care facility discharge prescriptions

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. chapter 91, subchapter 4 is added to read:

Subchapter 4. Health Care Facilities

§ 4641. DEFINITIONS

As used in this subchapter:

1 (1) “Hospital” shall have the same meaning as in section 1902 of this
2 title.

3 (2) “Long-term care facility” means an assisted living residence, nursing
4 home, residential care home, or therapeutic community residence, as those
5 terms are defined in 33 V.S.A. § 7102.

6 (3) “Pharmacy” means any individual or entity licensed or registered
7 under 26 V.S.A. chapter 36.

8 § 4642. DISCHARGE PRESCRIPTIONS

9 (a) Upon discharging a patient from a hospital or long-term care facility,
10 the hospital or long-term care facility shall communicate all discharge
11 prescriptions and a summary of the patient’s discharge medications directly to
12 the pharmacy of the patient’s choice.

13 (b) A hospital or long-term care facility that fails to communicate the
14 information required by subsection (a) of this section may be subject to
15 disciplinary action by the appropriate licensing authority.

16 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

17 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.