

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Health and Welfare to which was referred Senate Bill  
3 No. 245 entitled “An act relating to hospital costs and disclosure of health care  
4 provider affiliations” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and  
5 recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting  
6 clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD; NOTICE TO PATIENTS OF  
8 NEW AFFILIATION

9 The Green Mountain Care Board shall maintain a policy for reviewing new  
10 physician acquisitions and transfers as part of the Board’s hospital budget  
11 review responsibilities. The policy shall require hospitals to provide written  
12 notice about a new acquisition or transfer of health care providers to each  
13 patient served by a health care provider during the previous three-year period,  
14 including:

15 (1) notifying the patient that the health care provider is now affiliated  
16 with the hospital;

17 (2) providing the hospital’s name and contact information;

18 (3) notifying the patient that the change in affiliation may affect his or  
19 her out-of-pocket costs, depending on the patient’s health insurance plan and  
20 the services provided; and

1           (4) recommending that the patient contact his or her insurance company  
2           with specific questions or to determine his or her actual financial liability.

3           Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

4           This act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.

5           and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act relating  
6           to notice to patients of new health care provider affiliations”

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9           (Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_)

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Senator \_\_\_\_\_

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FOR THE COMMITTEE