

The Vermont Health Care Association

The Vermont Health Care Association supports H.690. The bill will remove existing barriers to completing advance care planning documentation and promote the ability of long term care facility residents to make important decisions about their care.

The Association suggests two revisions:

Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 9703 is amended to read:

§ 9703. FORM AND EXECUTION

A health care provider may serve as a witness to the principal's execution of the advance directive under this subsection. If the principal is being admitted to or is a resident of a nursing home, or residential care home or is being admitted to or is a patient in a hospital at the time of execution, the individual who explained the nature and effect of the advance directive to the principal pursuant to subsection (d) or (e) of this section may also serve as one of the witnesses to the principal's execution of the advance directive under this subsection.

Sec. 3. 18 V.S.A. § 9709(d) is amended to read:

(d)(1) Every nursing home, and residential care home facility shall may designate an adequate number of individuals to explain the nature and effect of an advance directive to patients as required by subsection 9703(d) of this title.