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Act No. 119 (H.287). Health; hospitals; health care providers; health care facilities; patients; financial assistance policies; medical debt

An act relating to patient financial assistance policies and medical debt protection

This act establishes minimum standards for financial assistance policies at Vermont hospitals, hospital-affiliated outpatient clinics and facilities, and ambulatory surgical centers, which these facilities must meet not later than July 1, 2024. It sets forth processes for the facilities' implementation of their financial assistance policies, specifies the steps the facilities must take to publicize and notify patients about their policies, and prohibits the facilities from selling their medical debt. The act also requires hospitals to submit a plain language summary of their financial assistance policies to the Green Mountain Care Board as part of the hospital fiscal year 2025 hospital budget review process.

Effective Date: July 1, 2022