

1 H.553

2 Introduced by Representative Yacovone of Morristown

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Health; hospitals; hospital budgets; Green Mountain Care Board;

6 public hearings; administrative functions

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require

8 hospitals to hold public hearings on their proposed budgets and to submit a

9 summary of the public comments received on the proposed budget to the

10 Green Mountain Care Board as part of the hospital budget review process. The

11 bill would also allow the Green Mountain Care Board to order hospitals to

12 align or coordinate their administrative functions in order to maximize

13 efficiencies and contain administrative costs.

14 An act relating to hospital public hearings and coordination of hospital

15 administrative functions

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

17 Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 9452 is added to read:

18 § 9452. HOSPITAL BUDGET DEVELOPMENT; PUBLIC HEARING

1 (a) At least 30 days prior to submitting a proposed budget to the Green
2 Mountain Care Board for review under this subchapter, each hospital shall
3 hold a public hearing in one or more of the communities in its service area to:
4 (1) explain the proposed hospital budget under development for the
5 upcoming fiscal year, including explaining any services that the hospital
6 intends to add, reduce, or eliminate during the year; and
7 (2) provide meaningful opportunities for the public to provide input on
8 the proposal budget and changes in hospital services for the hospital to
9 consider as it completes its budget proposal.
10 (b) The hospital shall submit a summary of the public comments received
11 during the hearing or hearings, as well as copies of any written comments
12 submitted to the hospital regarding its proposed budget, to the Green Mountain
13 Care Board as part of the information required pursuant to section 9454 of this
14 chapter.
15 Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. § 9454 is amended to read:
16 § 9454. HOSPITALS; DUTIES
17 (a) Hospitals shall file the following information at the time and place and
18 in the manner established by the Board:
19 (1) a budget for the forthcoming fiscal year;

20 * * *

1 Sec. 3. 18 V.S.A. § 9456 is amended to read:

2 § 9456. BUDGET REVIEW

3 * * *

4 (e)(1) The Board, in consultation with the Vermont Program for Quality in
5 Health Care, shall utilize mechanisms to measure hospital costs, quality, and
6 access and alignment with the Statewide Health Care Delivery Strategic Plan,
7 once established.

8 * * *

9 (6) The Board may order one or more Vermont hospitals to align or
10 coordinate, or both, their administrative functions with one or more other
11 Vermont hospitals in order to maximize efficiencies and contain administrative
12 costs.

13 * * *

14 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

15 This act shall take effect passage.