

PATIENT ADVOCATE DESIGNATION AND ACCEPTANCE FORMS FOR PREGNANT PATIENTS

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Senate Bill 822 as passed by the Senate
Sponsor: Sen. Sarah Anthony
House Committee: Health Policy [Discharged]
Senate Committee: Housing and Human Services
Complete to 12-18-24

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 822 would amend section 5507 of the Estates and Protected Individuals Code (EPIC) to allow a patient advocate designation to include a statement regarding which life-sustaining treatment the patient would desire or not desire if the patient is pregnant at the time the patient advocate designation becomes effective. The bill would add that “The patient's pregnancy status does not change or limit this right.”

In addition, the acceptance of a designation as a patient advocate would have to include the statement “This patient advocate designation can be used to direct which life-sustaining treatment the patient would desire or not desire if the patient is pregnant at the time the patient advocate designation becomes effective.”¹

[Note: The provisions described above would address *statements* surrounding the designation of a patient advocate.

The bill would not amend section 5509 of EPIC, which prescribes the authority, rights, responsibilities, and limitations of an individual designated as a patient advocate. Under both current law and the bill, that section provides that “The designation cannot be used to make a medical treatment decision to withhold or withdraw treatment from a patient who is pregnant that would result in the pregnant patient's death.”

The bill also would not amend section 5512 of EPIC, which provides restrictions regarding a patient advocate designation. Under both current law and the bill, that section provides that “A patient advocate cannot make a medical treatment decision under the authority of or under the process created by this section and sections 5506 to 5511 to withhold or withdraw treatment from a pregnant patient that would result in the pregnant patient's death.”]

MCL 700.5507

¹ This would replace the currently required statement “This patient advocate designation cannot be used to make a medical treatment decision to withhold or withdraw treatment from a patient who is pregnant that would result in the pregnant patient's death.”

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill would not have a fiscal impact on the state or units of local government.

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.