

SENATE BILL 879

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71r2804
CF HB 1137

By: **Senator Pinsky**

Introduced and read first time: February 21, 2007

Assigned to: Rules

Re-referred to: Finance, March 8, 2007

Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 23, 2007

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Hospitals – Safe Patient Lifting**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring hospitals to establish a safe patient lifting committee
4 composed of certain members on or before a certain date; requiring the
5 committee to establish a safe patient lifting policy on or before a certain date;
6 requiring the committee to consider certain factors while developing a safe
7 patient lifting policy; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the safe
8 lifting of hospital patients.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Health – General

11 Section 19–377 to be under the new part “Part X. Safe Patient Lifting”

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Health – General**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 **19-375. RESERVED.**

2 **19-376. RESERVED.**

3 **PART X. SAFE PATIENT LIFTING.**

4 **19-377.**

5 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "SAFE PATIENT LIFTING" MEANS THE USE OF
6 MECHANICAL LIFTING DEVICES BY HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES, INSTEAD OF MANUAL
7 LIFTING, TO LIFT, TRANSFER, AND REPOSITION PATIENTS.

8 (B) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2007, EACH HOSPITAL SHALL
9 ESTABLISH A SAFE PATIENT LIFTING COMMITTEE WITH EQUAL MEMBERSHIP
10 FROM MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYEES.

11 (C) (1) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2008, THE SAFE PATIENT LIFTING
12 COMMITTEE SHALL DEVELOP A SAFE PATIENT LIFTING POLICY FOR THE
13 HOSPITAL.

14 (2) THE GOAL OF THE POLICY SHALL BE TO REDUCE EMPLOYEE
15 INJURIES ASSOCIATED WITH PATIENT LIFTING.

16 (D) WHILE DEVELOPING A SAFE PATIENT LIFTING POLICY, THE
17 COMMITTEE SHALL CONSIDER, BASED ON THE PATIENT POPULATION OF THAT
18 HOSPITAL, THE APPROPRIATENESS AND EFFECTIVENESS OF:

19 (1) DEVELOPING OR ENHANCING PATIENT HANDLING HAZARD
20 ASSESSMENT PROCESSES;

21 (2) ENHANCED USE OF MECHANICAL LIFTING DEVICES;

22 (3) DEVELOPING SPECIALIZED LIFT TEAMS;

23 (4) TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR SAFE PATIENT LIFTING REQUIRED
24 FOR ALL PATIENT CARE PERSONNEL AT THE HOSPITAL;

25 (5) INCORPORATING PHYSICAL SPACE AND CONSTRUCTION
26 DESIGN FOR MECHANICAL LIFTING DEVICES IN ANY ARCHITECTURAL PLANS
27 FOR HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION; AND

1 **(6) DEVELOPING AN EVALUATION PROCESS TO DETERMINE THE**
2 **EFFECTIVENESS OF THE POLICY.**

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 2007.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.