

# SENATE BILL 195

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3lr1577  
CF 3lr1996

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By: **Senators Kelley, Astle, Benson, Forehand, Glassman, Jacobs,  
Jones-Rodwell, Kittleman, Mathias, Middleton, Pugh, and Rosapepe**

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2013

Assigned to: Finance

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Hospitals – Notice to Patients – Outpatient Status and Billing Implications**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a hospital, under certain circumstances, to provide  
4 certain notice to a patient of the patient's outpatient status, the billing  
5 implications of the outpatient status, and the impact of the outpatient status on  
6 the patient's eligibility for Medicare rehabilitation services; requiring the  
7 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to adopt by regulation standard  
8 language for a certain written notice; and generally relating to notices provided  
9 by hospitals to patients.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Health – General

12 Section 19–349.1

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Health – General**

18 **19–349.1.**

19 **(A) A HOSPITAL SHALL PROVIDE ORAL AND WRITTEN NOTICE TO A**  
20 **PATIENT OF THE PATIENT'S OUTPATIENT STATUS, THE BILLING IMPLICATIONS**  
21 **OF THE OUTPATIENT STATUS, AND THE IMPACT OF THE OUTPATIENT STATUS ON**  
22 **THE PATIENT'S ELIGIBILITY FOR MEDICARE REHABILITATION SERVICES IF:**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **(1) THE PATIENT RECEIVES ON-SITE SERVICES FROM THE**  
2 **HOSPITAL FOR MORE THAN 18 CONSECUTIVE HOURS;**

3           **(2) THE ON-SITE SERVICES RECEIVED BY THE PATIENT INCLUDE**  
4 **A HOSPITAL BED AND MEALS THAT HAVE BEEN PROVIDED IN AN AREA OF THE**  
5 **HOSPITAL OTHER THAN THE EMERGENCY ROOM; AND**

6           **(3) THE PATIENT IS CLASSIFIED AS AN OUTPATIENT AT THE**  
7 **HOSPITAL FOR OBSERVATION RATHER THAN AN ADMITTED INPATIENT.**

8           **(B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT BY REGULATION STANDARD**  
9 **LANGUAGE FOR THE WRITTEN NOTICE REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF**  
10 **THIS SECTION.**

11           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
12 October 1, 2013.