
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOSPITAL LICENSING.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that The Joint Commission
2 is the most widely used accreditation organization for hospitals
3 in the United States. The legislature further finds that other
4 accreditation organizations have also been approved by the
5 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and also provide
6 accreditation to hospitals. These organizations include the
7 Accreditation Commission for Health Care, Center for Improvement
8 in Healthcare Quality, and DNV Healthcare. Currently, The Joint
9 Commission is the only accreditation organization authorized in
10 the State to provide accreditation that demonstrates a
11 hospital's compliance with all licensing inspections required by
12 the State.

13 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to permit hospitals
14 to demonstrate compliance with all licensing inspections
15 required by the State through accreditation or certification by
16 any accreditation or certification organization approved by the
17 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.



1 SECTION 2. Section 321-14.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsections (c) to (e) to read as follows:

3 "(c) The rules ~~[may]~~ shall provide that accreditation or
4 certification by ~~[The Joint Commission]~~ an accreditation
5 organization or a certification organization approved by the
6 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services demonstrates a
7 hospital's compliance with all licensing inspections required by
8 the State. The rules may exempt a hospital from a licensing
9 inspection on a continuing basis throughout the term of the
10 accreditation or certification under the following conditions:

11 (1) The hospital provides the department with a certified
12 copy of the hospital's official accreditation or
13 certification report ~~[from The Joint Commission];~~

14 (2) The hospital continuously holds full accreditation ~~[by~~
15 ~~The Joint Commission,]~~ or certification and provides
16 the department with a certified copy of any updated
17 official accreditation or certification reports; and

18 (3) The hospital holds a current and valid state license.

19 (d) The rules shall provide that the department may
20 conduct inspections and investigations of exempt hospitals ~~[to~~
21 ~~investigate]~~ regarding complaints, ~~[follow-up on]~~ adverse



1 accreditation or certification findings, or [~~conduct~~] periodic
2 validation surveys.

3 (e) Information contained in reports of survey and
4 official accreditation or certification letters made by [~~The~~
5 ~~Joint Commission~~] an accreditation organization or a
6 certification organization approved by the Centers for Medicare
7 and Medicaid Services that are used in determining compliance
8 with licensing requirements shall be public information."

9 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
10 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

11 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Hospital Licensing; Department of Health; Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; Accreditation Organizations; Certification Organizations; Licensing Inspections

Description:

Permits hospitals to demonstrate compliance with all licensing inspections required by the State through accreditation or certification by any accreditation or certification organization approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD2)

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