



AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE ASSOCIATION
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT
STATE UPDATE

March 7, 2013

FLORIDA

Here is the latest legislative/regulatory report for your State. AIHA government affairs will send the reports every week, detailing any legislative and/or regulatory pertinent to the profession in your state. The reports will also include the text of many bills (if available) and update activity on bills already reported. However, reports will only be sent if there has been new activity on the legislation and/or regulations already reported, or new legislation and/or regulations are found. Reports are sent to local section officers and may be forwarded to others if you wish. Questions contact Aaron Trippler at atrippler@aiha.org.

New Legislation

FL H 1383

AUTHOR: Richardson (D)
TITLE: Patient Lifting and Handling Practices
INTRODUCED: 03/05/2013
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: HOUSE
SUMMARY: Relates to patient lifting and handling practices; requires hospitals to establish policy concerning safe lifting and handling of patients; requires committee to develop and evaluate policy.
STATUS: 03/05/2013 INTRODUCED.

In bill text the following have special meaning:

green underline denotes added text

~~dark red struck out text~~ denotes deleted text

red text denotes vetoed text

The symbol, , indicates a link to an affected code section

2013 FL H 1383

AUTHOR: Richardson

VERSION: Introduced

VERSION DATE: 03/05/201

3

2013

HB 1383

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to patient lifting and handling practices; creating s. 381.029, F.S.; providing a definition; requiring hospitals to establish a policy concerning the lifting and handling of patients by hospital employees; requiring a committee to develop the policy; providing for membership and duties of the committee; requiring continuing evaluation of the policy; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 381.029, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

381.029 Patient lifting and handling practices. --

(1) As used in this section, the term "hospital" means a health care facility licensed under chapter 395.

(2) A hospital shall establish an evidence-based policy regarding the safe lifting and associated handling of patients by hospital employees that minimizes the risk of injuries to patients and employees. The policy shall be developed by a committee composed of an appropriate mix of management and nonmanagement employees, including registered nurses engaged in direct patient care. The hospital may assign the task of developing the policy to a newly created committee or to an existing committee.

(3) The committee shall:

(a) Use data to evaluate the risk of injury to patients and employees.

(b) Determine the appropriateness of alternative strategies for lifting and handling patients based on the population of patients at the hospital and identified hospital- specific risk factors. At a minimum, the committee shall consider:

1. Using mechanical lifting devices or other engineering controls that minimize the need to lift and handle the patient manually.

2. Using teams to lift and handle patients.

3. Providing training in safe lifting and handling practices for employees engaged in caring for patients.

4. Incorporating physical space and construction design for mechanical lifting devices in architectural plans for construction or renovation of the hospital.

(c) Develop an ongoing evaluation process to determine the effectiveness of the policy established under this section.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.

Legislation Reported Earlier

FL H 149

COMPARE: FL S 308
AUTHOR: Campbell (D)
TITLE: Safe Work Environments Act
PREFILED: 01/14/2013
INTRODUCED: 03/05/2013
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: House Government Operations Subcommittee
Relates to safe work environments; creates "Safe Work Environment Act"; provides findings and intent; provides that subjecting employee to abusive work environment is unlawful employment practice; prohibits retaliating against employee who has opposed any unlawful employment practice, or who has made charges, testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in investigation or proceeding concerning such claim; provides for vicarious liability for employers in certain circumstances.
SUMMARY:
STATUS: 01/14/2013 PREFILED.

01/23/2013 To HOUSE Committee on GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE.

01/23/2013 Referred to HOUSE Committee on CIVIL JUSTICE
SUBCOMMITTEE.

01/23/2013 Referred to HOUSE Committee on APPROPRIATIONS.

01/23/2013 Referred to HOUSE Committee on STATE AFFAIRS.

03/05/2013 INTRODUCED.

03/05/2013 To HOUSE Committee on GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE.

03/05/2013 Referred to HOUSE Committee on CIVIL JUSTICE
SUBCOMMITTEE.

03/05/2013 Referred to HOUSE Committee on APPROPRIATIONS.

03/05/2013 Referred to HOUSE Committee on STATE AFFAIRS.

Date: 13
Issue: WorkplViolence

~~FL S 308~~

COMPARE: FL H 149
AUTHOR: Braynon (D)
TITLE: Abusive Workplace Environments Act
PREFILED: 01/15/2013
INTRODUCED: 03/05/2013
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: Senate Community Affairs Committee
Relates to abusive workplace environments; creates the "Abusive Workplace Environment Act"; prohibits a public employer from subjecting his or her employee to an abusive workplace environment; requires that a civil action filed under the act must be commenced no later than 1 year after the date of the last incident that is part of the alleged unlawful employment practice.

SUMMARY:

STATUS:

01/15/2013 PREFILED.

01/18/2013 To SENATE Committee on COMMUNITY AFFAIRS.

01/18/2013 Referred to SENATE Committee on GOVERNMENTAL OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

01/18/2013 Referred to SENATE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE on GENERAL GOVERNMENT.

01/18/2013 Referred to SENATE Committee on APPROPRIATIONS.

03/05/2013 INTRODUCED.

03/05/2013 To SENATE Committee on COMMUNITY AFFAIRS.

03/05/2013 Referred to SENATE Committee on GOVERNMENTAL OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

03/05/2013 Referred to SENATE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE on GENERAL GOVERNMENT.

03/05/2013 Referred to SENATE Committee on APPROPRIATIONS.

Date: 13
Issue: WorkplViolence

Regulatory Activity
None to Report