

1 AN ACT concerning public health.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Medical Patient Rights Act is amended by  
5 changing Section 5 and adding Sections 5.1 and 5.2 as follows:

6 (410 ILCS 50/5)

7 Sec. 5. Statement of hospital patient's rights.

8 (a) Each patient admitted to a hospital, and the guardian  
9 or authorized representative or parent of a minor patient,  
10 shall be given a written statement of all the rights enumerated  
11 in this Act, or a similar statement of patients' rights  
12 required of the hospital by the Joint Commission on  
13 Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations or a similar  
14 accrediting organization. The statement shall be given at the  
15 time of admission or as soon thereafter as the condition of the  
16 patient permits.

17 (b) If a patient is unable to read the written statement, a  
18 hospital shall make a reasonable effort to provide it to the  
19 guardian or authorized representative of the patient.

20 (c) The statement shall also include the right not to be  
21 discriminated against by the hospital due to the patient's  
22 race, color, or national origin where such characteristics are  
23 not relevant to the patient's medical diagnosis and treatment.

1 The statement shall further provide each admitted patient or  
2 the patient's representative or guardian with notice of how to  
3 initiate a grievance regarding improper discrimination with  
4 the hospital and how the patient may lodge a grievance with the  
5 Illinois Department of Public Health and the Illinois  
6 Department of Human Rights regardless of whether the patient  
7 has first used the hospital's grievance process.

8 (Source: P.A. 88-56; 88-670, eff. 12-2-94.)

9 (410 ILCS 50/5.1 new)

10 Sec. 5.1. Discrimination grievance procedures. Upon  
11 receipt of a grievance alleging unlawful discrimination on the  
12 basis of race, color, or national origin, the hospital must  
13 investigate the claim and work with the patient to address  
14 valid or proven concerns in accordance with the hospital's  
15 grievance process. At the conclusion of the hospital's  
16 grievance process, the hospital shall inform the patient that  
17 such grievances may be reported to the Illinois Department of  
18 Public Health if not resolved to the patient's satisfaction at  
19 the hospital level.

20 (410 ILCS 50/5.2 new)

21 Sec. 5.2. Emergency room anti-discrimination notice. Every  
22 hospital shall post a sign next to or in close proximity of its  
23 sign required by Section 489.20 (q) (1) of Title 42 of the Code  
24 of Federal Regulations stating the following:

1           "You have the right not to be discriminated against by the  
2           hospital due to your race, color, or national origin if these  
3           characteristics are unrelated to your diagnosis or treatment.  
4           If you believe this right has been violated, please call  
5           (insert number for hospital grievance officer)."

6           Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
7           becoming law.