

1 AN ACT concerning health facilities.

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

4 Section 5. The Hospital Licensing Act is amended by
5 changing Section 6.25 as follows:

6 (210 ILCS 85/6.25)

7 Sec. 6.25. Safe patient handling policy.

8 (a) In this Section:

9 "Health care worker" means an individual providing direct
10 patient care services who may be required to lift, transfer,
11 reposition, or move a patient.

12 "Nurse" means an advanced practice nurse, a registered
13 nurse, or a licensed practical nurse licensed under the Nurse
14 Practice Act.

15 "Safe lifting equipment and accessories" means mechanical
16 equipment designed to lift, move, reposition, and transfer
17 patients, including, but not limited to, fixed and portable
18 ceiling lifts, sit-to-stand lifts, slide sheets and boards,
19 slings, and repositioning and turning sheets.

20 "Safe lifting team" means at least 2 individuals who are
21 trained in the use of both safe lifting techniques and safe
22 lifting equipment and accessories, including the
23 responsibility for knowing the location and condition of such

1 equipment and accessories.

2 (b) A hospital must adopt and ensure implementation of a
3 policy to identify, assess, and develop strategies to control
4 risk of injury to patients and nurses and other health care
5 workers associated with the lifting, transferring,
6 repositioning, or movement of a patient. The policy shall
7 establish a process that, at a minimum, includes all of the
8 following:

9 (1) Analysis of the risk of injury to patients and
10 nurses and other health care workers posted by the patient
11 handling needs of the patient populations served by the
12 hospital and the physical environment in which the patient
13 handling and movement occurs.

14 (2) Education and training of nurses and other direct
15 patient care providers in the identification, assessment,
16 and control of risks of injury to patients and nurses and
17 other health care workers during patient handling and on
18 safe lifting policies and techniques and current lifting
19 equipment.

20 (3) Evaluation of alternative ways to reduce risks
21 associated with patient handling, including evaluation of
22 equipment and the environment.

23 (4) Restriction, to the extent feasible with existing
24 equipment and aids, of manual patient handling or movement
25 of all or most of a patient's weight except for emergency,
26 life-threatening, or otherwise exceptional circumstances.

1 (5) Collaboration with and an annual report to the
2 nurse staffing committee.

3 (6) Procedures for a nurse to refuse to perform or be
4 involved in patient handling or movement that the nurse in
5 good faith believes will expose a patient or nurse or other
6 health care worker to an unacceptable risk of injury.

7 (7) Submission of an annual report to the hospital's
8 governing body or quality assurance committee on
9 activities related to the identification, assessment, and
10 development of strategies to control risk of injury to
11 patients and nurses and other health care workers
12 associated with the lifting, transferring, repositioning,
13 or movement of a patient.

14 (8) In developing architectural plans for construction
15 or remodeling of a hospital or unit of a hospital in which
16 patient handling and movement occurs, consideration of the
17 feasibility of incorporating patient handling equipment or
18 the physical space and construction design needed to
19 incorporate that equipment.

20 (9) Fostering and maintaining patient safety, dignity,
21 self-determination, and choice, including the following
22 policies, strategies, and procedures:

23 (A) the existence and availability of a trained
24 safe lifting team;

25 (B) a policy of advising patients of a range of
26 transfer and lift options, including adjustable

1 diagnostic and treatment equipment, mechanical lifts,
2 and provision of a trained safe lifting team;

3 (C) the right of a competent patient, or guardian
4 of a patient adjudicated incompetent, to choose among
5 the range of transfer and lift options, subject to the
6 provisions of subparagraph (E) of this paragraph (9);

7 (D) procedures for documenting, upon admission and
8 as status changes, a mobility assessment and plan for
9 lifting, transferring, repositioning, or movement of a
10 patient, including the choice of the patient or
11 patient's guardian among the range of transfer and lift
12 options; and

13 (E) incorporation of such safe lifting procedures,
14 techniques, and equipment as are consistent with
15 applicable federal law.

16 (Source: P.A. 96-389, eff. 1-1-10; 96-1000, eff. 7-2-10.)