

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 1164

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled  
"Public health code,"  
by amending section 21777 (MCL 333.21777).

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1       Sec. 21777. (1) If a patient ~~has a temporary absence~~ **is**  
2 **temporarily absent** from a nursing home for emergency medical  
3 treatment, the nursing home shall hold the bed open for 10 days  
4 for that patient in the patient's absence, if there is a  
5 reasonable expectation that the patient will return within that  
6 period of time and the nursing home receives payment for **each day**  
7 **during** the absent period.

8       (2) If a patient ~~has a temporary absence~~ **is temporarily**  
9 **absent** from a nursing home for therapeutic reasons as approved by  
10 a physician, the nursing home shall hold the bed open for 18  
11 days, if there is a reasonable expectation that the patient will

Senate Bill No. 1164 (H-2) as amended September 29, 2004

1 return within that period of time and the nursing home receives  
2 payment for **each day during** the absent period. Temporary  
3 absences for therapeutic reasons are limited to 18 days per  
4 year.

5 (3) When a patient's absence is longer than specified under  
6 subsection (1) or (2), or both, the patient has the option to  
7 return to the nursing home for the next available bed.

8 (4) For title 19 patients, the department of ~~social~~  
9 ~~services~~ **community health** shall continue funding for the  
10 temporary absence as provided under subsections (1) and (2) **if**  
11 **the nursing home is at 98% [or more] occupancy except for any bed being**  
12 **held open under subsection (1) or (2).**