



HOUSE BILL 447: The Jeff Rieg Law/Patients Religious Rights.

2021-2022 General Assembly

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| Committee: | Senate Health Care. If favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate | Date: | August 26, 2021 |
| Introduced by: | Reps. Kidwell, Hanig, Elmore, Howard | Prepared by: | Jason Moran-Bates |
| Analysis of: | First Edition | | Committee Staff |

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 447 would require hospitals to allow clergy members to visit admitted patients.*

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 447 would require a hospital to allow clergy members to visit admitted patients who wish to be visited by a clergy member, despite any disaster declarations or the use of the hospital as a temporary emergency shelter. Clergy members would be subject to health screenings and adherence to infection control procedures that do not interfere with the religious beliefs of the patient or clergy member. Hospitals would be able to restrict visitation by clergy members who did not pass the health screening.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill would become effective October 1, 2021.

*Brad Krehely, Staff Attorney for the Legislative Analysis Division, contributed substantially to the drafting of this summary.

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