

**SB 256 – AS INTRODUCED**

2014 SESSION

14-2684  
01/04

SENATE BILL        **256**

AN ACT            requiring health care facilities to implement a process to inform patients about palliative care options.

SPONSORS:        Sen. Reagan, Dist 17; Rep. Suzanne Smith, Graf 8; Rep. Kotowski, Merr 24

COMMITTEE:      Health, Education and Human Services

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ANALYSIS

This bill requires health care facilities to implement a process to inform patients about palliative care options as part of the licensure and re-licensure requirements.

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Explanation:      Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
                         Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struck through.~~]  
                         Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Fourteen*

AN ACT                    requiring health care facilities to implement a process to inform patients about palliative care options.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1            1 New Section; Information on Palliative Care Options Required. Amend RSA 151 by inserting  
2 after section 5-c the following new section:

3            151:5-d Information on Palliative Care Options Required. Any facility required to be licensed  
4 under this chapter shall establish a procedure for identifying patients or residents who may benefit  
5 from palliative care. The facility shall provide information about palliative care and facilitate access  
6 to appropriate palliative care for such patients or residents. For the purposes of this section  
7 “palliative care” means care that focuses on the quality of life for patients and may include, but not  
8 be limited to, relief from pain and other distressing symptoms, offers a support system to both the  
9 patient and the patient’s family, and uses a team approach to address the physical, emotional,  
10 spiritual, and social concerns that arise with serious illness.

11            2 New Subparagraph; Palliative Care; Rulemaking Added. Amend RSA 151:9, I by inserting  
12 after subparagraph (o) the following new subparagraph:

13                    (p) Procedures for establishing palliative care procedures, including further definition of  
14 “palliative care” under RSA 151:5-d.

15            3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2015.