

## **LEGISLATIVE DIGEST**

[Health Code - Subacute Care Reporting Requirements]

**Ordinance amending the Health Code to require general acute care hospitals in the City to report annually to the Department of Public Health the number of, and certain demographic information regarding, patients transferred to a health facility outside of the City to receive subacute skilled nursing care and patients who qualify for subacute skilled nursing care but are not transferred to a health facility outside of the City.**

### Existing Law

There is currently no legal requirement for hospitals in the City to provide to the Department of Public Health (“DPH”) information regarding patients transferred to health facilities outside of the City to receive subacute skilled nursing care or patients who qualify for subacute skilled nursing care but are not transferred to health facilities outside of the City.

### Amendments to Current Law

The Proposed Legislation would amend the Health Code to require general acute care hospitals owned by the City or private entities to report on an annual basis to DPH the number and aggregated demographics of patients transferred to subacute health facilities outside of the City or the number and aggregated demographics of patients who are eligible for subacute skilled nursing care but are not transferred to subacute health facilities outside of the City. The Proposed Legislation would require DPH to request the same information from hospitals owned by non-City public entities. The Proposed Legislation would also require DPH to submit to the Health Commission an annual written report based on information received from reporting hospitals.

### Background Information

San Francisco has a shortage of subacute skilled nursing care, which often necessitates discharging patients from hospitals in the City to subacute health facilities outside of the City. The Proposed Legislation would provide information for DPH, the Health Commission, and the Board of Supervisors to inform future planning related to the provision of subacute care beds in the City.