FILE NO. 220410

REVISED LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

(4/14/2022, Duplicated in Committee)

[Health Code - Skilled Nursing Care Transfer Reporting Requirements]

Ordinance amending the Health Code to require general acute care hospitals and hospital-based skilled nursing facilities 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 skilled nursing care and patients who qualify for 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 or hospital-based skilled nursing facilities 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 or general skilled nursing care or patients who qualify for subacute or general 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 and hospital-based skilled nursing facilities owned either by the City or private entities to report on an annual basis to DPH the number and aggregated demographics of patients transferred to health facilities outside of the City for either subacute or general skilled nursing care, as well as the number and aggregated demographics of patients who are eligible for subacute or general skilled nursing care but are not transferred to health facilities outside of the City. The Proposed Legislation would require DPH to request the same information from hospitals and skilled nursing facilities owned by non-City (i.e., state or federal) public entities. The Proposed Legislation would also require DPH to make an annual report to the Health Commission based on the information received from reporting health facilities.

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.

n:\legana\as2021\2200164\01587922.docx