

MAR 8 2005
HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE 635
BY MASCHER

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to manual patient handling by nurses in a
2 hospital setting.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 635

1 Section 1. Section 135B.7, Code 2005, is amended by adding
2 the following new unnumbered paragraph:

3 NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. The department shall adopt rules
4 requiring hospitals to establish and implement protocols
5 relating to manual patient handling by nurses. The protocols
6 shall be designed to prevent musculoskeletal and other
7 injuries by nursing staff by establishing procedures which
8 minimize manual patient handling by individual nurses,
9 utilizing patient lifting procedures such as lifting teams,
10 and making available electronic assistive equipment as an
11 alternative to manual patient handling.

12 EXPLANATION

13 This bill provides that the Iowa department of public
14 health shall adopt rules requiring hospitals to establish and
15 implement protocols relating to manual patient handling by
16 nurses. The bill specifies that the purpose of the protocols
17 developed shall be to prevent musculoskeletal and other
18 injuries by nursing staff. The bill provides that the
19 protocols shall establish procedures which minimize manual
20 patient handling by individual nurses, utilize patient lifting
21 procedures such as lifting teams, and make available
22 electronic assistive equipment.

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