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HOUSE BILL NO. 1870

Offered January 8, 2003 Prefiled January 7, 2003

A BILL to amend and reenact § 54.1-2405 of the Code of Virginia, relating to notice concerning disposition of patient records in conjunction with the sale of a practice.

Patron—O'Bannon

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 54.1-2405 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 54.1-2405. Transfer of patient records in conjunction with sale of practice; notice required.

No person licensed, registered, or certified by one of the health regulatory boards under the Department shall transfer records pertaining to a current patient in conjunction with the sale of a professional practice until such person has first attempted to notify the patient of the pending transfer, by mail, at the patient's last known address, and by publishing prior notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the provider's practice area. The notice shall specify that, at the written request of the patient or an authorized representative, within a reasonable time period, the records or copies will be sent to any other like-regulated provider of the patient's choice or destroyed.