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An Act To Prevent Inappropriate Transfers of Residents of Nursing Facilities

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. Rulemaking. By January 1, 2008, the Department of Health and Human Services shall amend the rules for the licensing of long-term care facilities to prevent the inappropriate transfer of a resident to a hospital as a way of accomplishing the discharge of the resident. The rules must accommodate the need to match resident needs with the service capabilities of a long-term care facility, the necessity of transfer to a hospital when resident needs require hospital-level service and procedures for discharge from the hospital and readmission to a long-term care facility. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined by Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

SUMMARY

This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend, by January 1, 2008, the rules for the licensing of long-term care facilities to prevent the inappropriate transfer of a resident to a hospital as a way of accomplishing the discharge of the resident. The rules are routine technical rules.