

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 23, 2007

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 27, 2007

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007—08 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 371

Introduced by Assembly Member Huffman

February 14, 2007

An act to add Section 15459.10 to the Government Code, relating to health facility financing, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 371, as amended, Huffman. Health facilities.

Existing law regulates the operation of health facilities, including hospitals. The existing California Health Facilities Financing Authority Act empowers the California Health Facilities Financing Authority to make loans from the continuously appropriated California Health Facilities Financing Authority Fund to nonprofit corporations or associations for financing or refinancing the acquisition, construction, or remodeling of health facilities.

Existing law, the California Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1973, establishes certain safety and other responsibilities of employers and employees, including, but not limited to, the requirement that no employer shall fail or neglect to provide safety devices or safeguards reasonably necessary to render the employment safe. This law also requires each employer to establish, implement, and maintain an effective injury prevention program, as prescribed.

This bill would require every general acute care hospital that applies to the authority or any other public entity for financing from the issuance of tax-exempt bonds to provide, with the application, a copy of the

hospital’s injury and illness prevention program established, implemented, and maintained pursuant to the California Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1973 or through a collective bargaining agreement. The copy of the program shall specify how the general acute care hospital plans to implement or has implemented the program with a specified zero lift ~~component~~ *policy*.

Because the bill would expand the purposes for which a continuously appropriated fund may be used, it would result in an appropriation.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 15459.10 is added to the Government
2 Code, to read:

3 15459.10. (a) Every general acute care hospital, as defined in
4 subdivision (a) of Section 1250 of the Health and Safety Code,
5 that applies to the authority or any other public entity for financing
6 from the issuance of tax-exempt bonds shall provide, with the
7 application, a copy of the hospital’s injury and illness prevention
8 program established, implemented, and maintained pursuant to
9 Section 6401.7 of the Labor Code or through a collective
10 bargaining agreement that specifies how the general acute care
11 hospital has implemented or plans to implement a hospital patient
12 and health care worker injury prevention program. This program
13 shall include a zero lift ~~component that substitutes the manual~~
14 ~~lifting and transferring of patients with powered patient transfer~~
15 ~~devices, lifting devices, or lift teams.~~ *policy*.

16 (b) If a general acute care hospital does not have a hospital
17 patient and health care worker injury prevention program described
18 in subdivision (a), the application shall include a description of
19 how the applicant will allocate its financial resources for the
20 planning, purchase, construction, and installation of equipment to
21 implement ~~the zero lift component described in subdivision (a).~~ *a*
22 *zero lift policy*.

23 (c) *For purposes of this section, a “zero lift policy” is a term*
24 *of act recognized internationally to mean replacing unassisted*
25 *manual lifting, repositioning, and transferring of patients with the*
26 *use of patient lift, repositioning, or transfer devices and lift teams.*
27 *Zero lift policy does not require the use of patient lift,*

- 1 *repositioning, or transfer devices if the individual's own needs*
- 2 *assessment indicates that it is safe for the patient and the employee*
- 3 *to utilize techniques not requiring the use of those devices.*

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