

HB09-1025: Concerning Requirements for Individuals Who Collect Data on Hospital-Acquired Infection Rates

**Representative Jim Riesberg
Senator Betty Boyd**

The Issue: Under HB06-1045, Hospitals, Ambulatory Surgery Centers (ASCs) & Dialysis Centers in Colorado are required to report infection rate data to the National Health Care Safety Network. The person who reports the data also has to be nationally certified in infection control. Colorado's ASCs are eager to comply with the reporting requirements in order to improve patient safety.

The Problem: This type of certification is expensive and time consuming to achieve. Usually nurses, they are also costly to have on staff and would not have enough infection control work at a small facility to maintain their certification. Being small businesses, this is extremely cost prohibitive.

The Answer: HB09-1025 which will give ASCs and Dialysis Centers an exemption from having to have an infection control certified nurse on staff to report this data. In addition:

- All other reporting requirements under existing law would stay the same, allowing for the State to collect this information for comparison purposes to improve patient safety.
- CASCA will work with CDPHE to develop minimum requirements that the data collection reporters must have.
- These health care facilities would have the same exemption as hospitals with 50 or fewer beds.
- Consumers are the ultimate beneficiaries of this effort to improve patient care.
- This bill has no fiscal impact.

History:

- This bill corrects a simple oversight in HB06-1045.
- CASCA has strongly promoted patient safety by working hand in hand with CDPHE in promoting the new reporting requirements.

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