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## Exempt Action Final Regulation Agency Background Document

<b>Agency name</b>	Virginia Department of Health
<b>Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation(s)</b>	12VAC5-410
<b>Regulation title(s)</b>	Regulations for the Licensure of Hospitals in Virginia
<b>Action title</b>	Amend regulations to reflect legislative changes concerning patient discharge planning
<b>Final agency action date</b>	December 16, 2015
<b>Date this document prepared</b>	December 16, 2015

When a regulatory action is exempt from executive branch review pursuant to § 2.2-4002 or § 2.2-4006 of the Virginia Administrative Process Act (APA) or an agency's basic statute, the agency is not required, however, is encouraged to provide information to the public on the Regulatory Town Hall using this form. Note: While posting this form on the Town Hall is optional, the agency must comply with requirements of the Virginia Register Act, Executive Orders 17 (2014) and 58 (1999), and the *Virginia Register Form, Style, and Procedure Manual*.

### Brief summary

*Please provide a brief summary of the proposed new regulation, proposed amendments to the existing regulation, or the regulation proposed to be repealed. Alert the reader to all substantive matters or changes. If applicable, generally describe the existing regulation.*

Senate Bill 851 enacted by the 2015 General Assembly, created § 32.1-137.03 of the Code of Virginia which requires every hospital to provide each patient admitted as an inpatient the opportunity to designate an individual who will care for or assist the patient in his residence following discharge from the hospital and to whom the hospital shall provide information regarding the patient's discharge plan and follow-up care. The bill mandates that the Virginia Department of Health promulgate regulations for the implementation of the provisions contained within § 32.1-137.03 of the Code of Virginia. The Virginia Department of Health is utilizing this exempt action to amend the Regulations for the Licensure of Hospitals in Virginia (12VAC5-410 et. seq.) to reflect the requirements of § 32.1-137.03 of the Code of Virginia.

### Statement of final agency action

*Please provide a statement of the final action taken by the agency including: 1) the date the action was taken; 2) the name of the agency taking the action; and 3) the title of the regulation.*

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The State Health Commissioner approved these amendments to the Regulations for the Licensure of Hospice on behalf of the Board of Health on December 16, 2015.

### Family impact

*Please assess the impact of this regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability including to what extent the regulatory action will: 1) strengthen or erode the authority and rights of parents in the education, nurturing, and supervision of their children; 2) encourage or discourage economic self-sufficiency, self-pride, and the assumption of responsibility for oneself, one's spouse, and one's children and/or elderly parents; 3) strengthen or erode the marital commitment; and 4) increase or decrease disposable family income.*

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This regulatory action will have no impact on the institution of the family and family stability.