

1 HJR142
2 167406-1
3 By Representative Beech
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 21-APR-15

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8 URGING ALL HOSPITALS IN ALABAMA TO OFFER INPATIENTS
9 65 AND OLDER INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION PRIOR TO DISCHARGE.
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11 WHEREAS, influenza can be a serious disease for
12 individuals 65 years and older, who are at a greater risk of
13 complications when compared to younger adults; and

14 WHEREAS, it has been estimated that 90 percent of
15 seasonal flu-related deaths and more than 60 percent of
16 flu-related hospitalizations in the United States each year
17 occur in individuals over age 65; and

18 WHEREAS, each year from October through March and in
19 accordance with the latest recommendations of the Advisory
20 Committee on Immunizations Practices of the Centers for
21 Disease Control and Prevention, every hospital in Alabama is
22 urged to offer, prior to discharge, immunization against the
23 influenza virus to inpatients 65 years and older, unless
24 contraindicated in the patient; and

25 WHEREAS, at least 13 other states by law,
26 resolution, or regulation have provided or requested these
27 types of ongoing annual offerings of immunizations due to the

1 public health importance of citizens being vaccinated against
2 the flu; and

3 WHEREAS, nothing in this resolution shall be
4 construed to be a mandate upon hospitals to offer this vaccine
5 to elderly patients and this request is further contingent
6 upon the availability of the vaccine; now therefore,

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
8 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That all hospitals in Alabama are
9 urged to offer to all inpatients over 65 years old
10 immunization against the influenza virus prior to discharge.