



BILL NO. 74

Government Bill

*4th Session, 61st General Assembly
Nova Scotia
61 Elizabeth II, 2012*

An Act to Improve Patient Safety and Health Systems Accountability

CHAPTER 13
ACTS OF 2012

**AS ASSENTED TO BY THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
MAY 17, 2012**

The Honourable Maureen MacDonald
Minister of Health and Wellness

*Halifax, Nova Scotia
Printed by Authority of the Speaker of the House of Assembly*

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An Act to Improve Patient Safety and Health Systems Accountability

Be it enacted by the Governor and Assembly as follows:

- 1 This Act may be cited as the *Patient Safety Act*.
 - 2 In this Act, “district health authority” means a district health authority established pursuant to the *Health Authorities Act* and includes the Izaak Walton Killam Health Centre established by the *Izaak Walton Killam Health Centre Act*.
 - 3 The Minister of Health and Wellness is responsible for the general supervision and management of this Act.
 - 4 (1) A district health authority shall compile and report hand-hygiene adherence rates in accordance with a protocol established by the regulations.

(2) A district health authority shall compile and report other patient-safety indicators prescribed by the regulations in accordance with protocols established by the regulations.
 - 5 (1) The Governor in Council may make regulations
 - (a) establishing a protocol for district health authorities with respect to hand-hygiene adherence, including requirements for district health authorities to compile and report hand-hygiene adherence rates;
 - (b) prescribing other patient-safety indicators for the purpose of the Act;
 - (c) establishing protocols for district health authorities with respect to other patient-safety indicators, including requirements for district health authorities to compile and report with respect to those indicators;
 - (d) governing the form and manner of reporting for the purpose of this Act;
 - (e) adopting or incorporating by reference, in whole or in part or with modifications, a written standard, protocol, rule, regulation, guideline, code or document as it reads on a date prescribed by the regulations or as it is amended from time to time;
 - (f) defining any word or expression used but not defined in this Act;
 - (g) respecting any matter or thing the Governor in Council considers necessary or advisable to effectively carry out the intent and purpose of this Act.
 - (2) The exercise by the Governor in Council of the authority contained in subsection (1) is regulations within the meaning of the *Regulations Act*.
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