



**House  
Legislative  
Analysis  
Section**

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**WAIVE DR./ PATIENT PRIVILEGE**

**House Bill 5012**  
**Sponsor: Rep. John Llewellyn**  
**Committee: Insurance**

**Complete to 9-15-95**

**A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5012 AS INTRODUCED 9-12-95**

Under the Revised Judicature Act, a person authorized to practice medicine or surgery cannot disclose information acquired in attending a patient professionally if the information was necessary in prescribing as a physician or acting as a surgeon, except as otherwise provided by law. Exceptions include malpractice actions. The act also says that if a patient has died, the heirs at law are to be considered personal representatives of the patient for the purpose of waiving the provider-patient privilege in a contest over admitting the patient's will to probate. House Bill 5012 would amend the act to specify that, when a patient had died, the beneficiary of a life insurance policy insuring the life of the deceased could waive the privilege.

MCL 600.2157

House Bill 5012 (9-15-95)