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Senate Fiscal Agency  
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**SFA****BILL ANALYSIS**

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House Bill 4358 (Substitute H-1 as passed by the House)  
Sponsor: Representative Gerald Law  
House Committee: Senior Health, Security and Retirement  
Senate Committee: Health Policy

Date Completed: 5-13-99

### **CONTENT**

The bill would amend the Estates and Protected Individuals Code to allow a patient advocate to have a patient placed under hospice care. The bill would take effect April 1, 2000.

Under the Code, a "patient advocate" is an individual designated to exercise powers concerning another individual's care, custody, and medical treatment. The Code allows an individual who is 18 or older and of sound mind to designate another individual who is 18 or older as his or her patient advocate. A patient advocate may exercise his or her powers only when the patient is unable to participate in medical decisions. The Code contains a list of a patient advocate's rights, responsibilities, and authority.

(The Code (Public Act 386 of 1998) recodified the Revised Probate Code, and will not take effect until April 1, 2000.)

MCL 700.5509

Legislative Analyst: G. Towne

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Fiscal Analyst: B. Bowerman

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.