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BILL ANALYSIS

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House Bill 4272 (Substitute H-4 as reported without amendment)

Sponsor: Representative Stephen Ehardt

House Committee: Health Policy

Senate Committee: Health Policy

CONTENT

The bill would add Section 20188 to the Public Health Code to require that the Governor create and appoint a Commission on Patient Safety to examine means to improve patient safety and reduce medical errors in this State. Alternatively, the Governor could designate an existing organization or patient safety initiative to act as the Commission. Section 20188 would be repealed 18 months after the bill's effective date.

The Commission would have to conduct public hearings to seek input from the public and from specified organizations that had an interest in patient safety. The Commission would have to consider all information received from its public hearings, review information from other patient safety initiatives, and study the causes of medical errors occurring in the continuum of care, including in health facilities and in private practices.

Within one year after the Commission was appointed or designated, it would have to issue a written report containing recommendations for improvements in medical practice and a system for reducing medical errors, both in health facilities and in private practice.

Proposed MCL 333.20188

Legislative Analyst: Julie Koval

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have an indeterminate impact on State government. The Department of Community Health would incur costs for the establishment and operation of the Commission. Costs could be reduced if the Governor chose to designate an existing organization to act as the Commission.

Date Completed: 5-6-04

Fiscal Analyst: Dana Patterson