



# Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

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## Summary HB 1907 PN 3334

This legislation creates the Hospital Observation Status Consumer Notification Act to ensure that hospitals notify patients, both orally and in writing of their outpatient observation status.

A notification by the hospital to the patient or patient's designee shall be required if the patient:

1. Receives onsite services for more than 23 consecutive hours,
2. Receives a hospital bed and meals provided in an area other than the emergency room, and
3. Has not been formally admitted as an inpatient

The notification shall include a statement that:

1. Outpatient observation status may impact insurance coverage for hospital and posthospital payments
2. Final decisions regarding outpatient observation status can be made after the patient has received services and is no longer a patient at the hospital and
3. The patient should contact their insurer if they have specific questions about coverage.

Should a patient's inpatient hospital stay be recategorized, the hospital shall not be responsible for a coverage implication or notice under this act.

If the Federal Government modifies their Medicare rules to make notification unnecessary, the Secretary of Health shall publish notification in the PA Bulletin and the act shall expire.

### **Effective Date**

This act shall take effect in 180 days.