

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 44th Legislature (1993)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 1703

By: Johnson (Rob)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to hospital medical records; requiring authentication of entries into hospital medical records; authorizing electronic or computer-generated signatures of physicians; providing safeguards; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-722 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. All entries into a hospital medical record shall be authenticated by the source of the information. History and physical examinations and discharge summaries completed by medical students or residents must include the name of the writing/dictating medical student or resident and must be signed by the attending physician responsible for authenticating that report(s). Physician signature shall follow all orders and progress notes. Other physicians and other authorized personnel must sign their entries in the medical record. Orders and progress notes shall include day and time of entry into the medical record.

B. Electronic or computer-generated signatures of a physician are acceptable as authentication and may be used in any place in the medical record where a physician's signature is required, including, but not limited to, all medical orders, if the signature is generated by a confidential code which only the user possesses and the following safeguards are adhered to:

1. The physician signs and then files a statement in the hospital administrator's office which states that:

- a. the physician will use an electronic or computer-generated signature to authenticate his entries in the medical record,
- b. the signature will be generated by a confidential code which only the physician possesses, and
- c. no person other than the physician will be permitted to use the signature;

2. The physician's use of an electronic or computer-generated signature is approved in writing by the hospital's administrator and medical record committee;

3. The electronic or computer-generated signature is the full, legal name of the physician and includes the physician's professional title; and

4. The physician reviews his entries in the medical record before his electronic or computer-generated signature is made a part of the record.

5. Rules and regulations pertaining to electronic generated signatures as provided in this act shall be promulgated by the State Board of Health.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective September 1, 1993.

44-1-6649

KSM