

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 1, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 444**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Gipson**  
(Coauthor: Senator Pan)

February 23, 2015

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An act to amend Section 1279.7 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to health facilities.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 444, as amended, Gipson. Health facilities: epidural *and external feeding* connectors.

Existing law, as of January 1, 2016, prohibits a health facility, as defined, from using an epidural connector *or an enteral feeding connector*, that would fit into a connector other than the type it was intended for, unless an emergency or urgent situation exists and the prohibition would impair the ability to provide health care. Existing law also requires a health facility to develop a patient safety plan and, ~~as of~~ *until* January 1, 2016, requires that plan to include measures to prevent adverse events associated with misconnecting *enteral feeding and* epidural lines. Violation of these provisions is a misdemeanor.

This bill would make ~~these~~ *the* provisions *relating to an epidural connector* operative as of January 1, ~~2017~~ *2017*, and would make the provisions *relating to an enteral feeding connector* operative as of July 1, 2016. *The bill would make conforming changes.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 1279.7 of the Health and Safety Code is  
2 amended to read:

3 1279.7. (a) A health facility, as defined in subdivision (a), (b),  
4 (c), or (f) of Section 1250, shall implement a facility-wide hand  
5 hygiene program.

6 (b) Commencing January 1, 2017, a health facility, as defined  
7 in subdivision (a), (b), (c), or (f) of Section 1250, is prohibited  
8 from using an epidural connector that would fit into a connector  
9 other than the type it was intended for, unless an emergency or  
10 urgent situation exists and the prohibition would impair the ability  
11 to provide health care.

12 (c) Commencing January 1, 2016, a health facility, as defined  
13 in subdivision (a), (b), (c), or (f) of Section 1250, is prohibited  
14 from using an intravenous connector ~~or an enteral feeding~~  
15 ~~connector~~ that would fit into a connector other than the type it was  
16 intended for, unless an emergency or urgent situation exists and  
17 the prohibition would impair the ability to provide health care.

18 (d) *Commencing July 1, 2016, a health facility, as defined in*  
19 *subdivision (a), (b), (c), or (f) of Section 1250, is prohibited from*  
20 *using an enteral feeding connector that would fit into a connector*  
21 *other than the type it was intended for, unless an emergency or*  
22 *urgent situation exists and the prohibition would impair the ability*  
23 *to provide health care.*

24 ~~(d)~~

25 (e) The Advanced Medical Technology Association shall, on  
26 January 1 of each year until the standards are developed, provide  
27 the Legislature with a report on the progress of the International  
28 Organization for Standardization in developing new design  
29 standards for connectors for intravenous, epidural, or enteral  
30 applications.

31 ~~(e)~~

32 (f) A health facility that is required to develop a patient safety  
33 plan pursuant to Section 1279.6 shall include in the patient safety  
34 plan measures to prevent adverse events associated with  
35 misconnecting intravenous, enteral feeding, and epidural lines.  
36 This subdivision shall become inoperative as to epidural connectors  
37 upon the operative date of subdivision ~~(b)~~ (b), and as to intravenous  
38 connectors upon the operative date of subdivision (c). and as to

- 1 enteral *feeding* connectors upon the operative date of subdivision
- 2 ~~(e)~~: (d).

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