

FINAL BILL REPORT

EHB 2465

C 72 L 98

Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Expanding the privileged communication from physician-patient to the health care provider and patient privilege.

Sponsors: Representatives Dyer, Cody, Backlund, L. Thomas and Cooke.

House Committee on Health Care
Senate Committee on Law & Justice

Background: A physician or osteopathic physician enjoys the physician-patient privilege, whereby the physician may not be compelled in a civil action before a court of law to disclose information acquired from a patient that was necessary in treating the patient.

This right of privileged or confidential communication does not extend, however, to other health providers under state law.

Summary: The right of privileged or confidential communication is extended to podiatric physicians, who may not be compelled to disclose in a civil action information acquired from a patient that was necessary to treat a patient.

Votes on Final Passage:

House 95 0

Senate 44 0

Effective: June 11, 1998