

DEPARTMENT OF AGING1300 NATIONAL DRIVE, SUITE 200
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834-1992Internet Home Page: www.aging.ca.gov

TDD Only 1-800-735-2929

FAX Only (916) 928-2506

Phone Number (916) 928-3329

**PROGRAM MEMO**

TO: AREA AGENCIES ON AGING DIRECTORS	NO.: PM 08-05 (P)
SUBJECT: Senate Bill 633 (Alquist) Persons with disabilities: care in community settings and hospital discharge planning policies	DATE ISSUED: February 21, 2008
REVISED: N/A	EXPIRES: July 1, 2010
REFERENCES: Health and Safety Code, Section 1262.5 (f)	SUPERSEDES: N/A
PROGRAMS AFFECTED: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All <input type="checkbox"/> Title III-B <input type="checkbox"/> Title III-C1/C2 <input type="checkbox"/> Title III-D <input type="checkbox"/> Title III-E <input type="checkbox"/> Title V <input type="checkbox"/> CBSP <input type="checkbox"/> MSSP <input type="checkbox"/> Title VII <input type="checkbox"/> ADHC <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
REASON FOR PROGRAM MEMO: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change in Law or Regulation <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Inquiry <input type="checkbox"/> Other Specify: _____	
INQUIRIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO: Denny Wight: Phone: (916) 928-3329; or e-mail: dwight@aging.ca.gov	

This Program Memo is for informational purposes only. New state law requires local hospitals to provide patients anticipated to need long-term care at the time of discharge with contact information for the local Area Agency on Aging (AAA) serving their county of residence. As a consequence of this requirement, local hospitals may also request AAAs to furnish them with information about supportive services available in their communities, with the purpose of providing this information to patients who are being discharged and their caregivers

Background

Senate Bill (SB) 633 (Alquist, Chapter 472, Statutes of 2007) was enacted on October 11, 2007, and became effective on January 1, 2008. Section 1262.5 of the Health and Safety Code requires hospitals to have a written discharge planning policy and process. The policy must assure that the hospital makes appropriate post-hospital care arrangements prior to discharging a patient. SB 633 amended Section 1262.5 to require hospitals to provide every patient who is anticipated to be in need of long-term care at the time of discharge with contact information for at least one public or nonprofit



agency or organization dedicated to providing information or referral services relating to community-based long-term care options. At a minimum, hospitals must provide contact information for the AAA serving the patient's county of residence, local independent living centers, or other information appropriate to the needs and characteristics of the patient.

This bill is consistent with the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in the 1999 case of *Olmstead v. L.C.* that requires federal, state, and local governments to develop cost-effective community-based services to prevent or delay institutionalization. Enactment of this bill is a step toward improving procedures and tools that will enable more people to access the supportive services available in their communities.

Impact on AAAs

As a consequence of SB 633, local hospitals, patients, and caregivers may contact AAAs for information that will be useful to patients that require community services or seek community alternatives to long-term care. The California Department of Aging recommends that AAAs include the 1-800-510-2020 Information and Assistance number and the 1-800-677-1116 Elder Care Locator Services number in all materials provided to hospitals, patients, and caregivers.



Lynn Daucher
Director