



Indiana Chapter
www.innaela.com

ELDER LAW ATTORNEYS APPLAUD PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR APPROVING CONTINUITY OF CARE LEGISLATION

Public Health Committee approves Physicians Orders for Scope of Treatment (POST) legislation to pave way for smooth transfer of health care treatment plans across system.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, January 31, 2013

Contact: Tim Phelps
Cell: 313-212-3558

Indianapolis, Ind. – The leadership of the Indiana National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (INNAELA) today applauded the members of the Indiana House Committee on Public Health for approving House Bill 1182. The bill was moved on by a unanimous vote. Introduced by Representative Tim Brown (R, District 41) and Representative Ed Clere (R, District 72), the bill establishes a process to implement a POST program in Indiana.

“We are grateful to committee members, led by Chairman Ed Clere for advancing the bill,” said John W. Longnaker III, Attorney at Law and President of the Indiana National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. “By creating a POST program, Indiana can help ensure continuity of care and give peace of mind to Hoosier seniors and their families,”

This legislation creates a pathway for individual treatment plans created by patients or their legally authorized surrogates and their doctors to be transferred through the healthcare system and honored by health care professionals at every level of the system.

INNAELA member Rebecca Geyer who attended the hearing and testified in favor of the bill believes that the legislation is necessary to ensure that the healthcare decisions made in advance are heeded.

“Living wills are common but are often vague, narrowly focused and difficult to interpret in a health care setting,” said Geyer. “The adoption of a POST program is an effective way to communicate the treatment preferences of patients with advanced chronic disease, advanced frailty, and terminal conditions.”

The mission of the Indiana Chapter of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys is to advocate locally on behalf of members’ clients and support grassroots activities of NAELA for senior citizens and persons with disabilities in Indiana.