

# Proposal for Legislation – 2023 Legislative Session

## Accepted Accrediting Agencies for Healthcare Facilities Update

### Return to:

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### 1. What is the problem or issue?

MCA 50-5-103 addresses accreditation for healthcare facilities but has not been updated since 2013. Currently, the MCA allows for accreditation from Joint Commission, the DNV, and Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC). CMS recognizes an additional 8 accrediting agencies: Accreditation Commission for Health Care (ACHC), American Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgery Facilities (AAAASF), Center for Improvement in Healthcare Quality (CIHQ), Community Health Accreditation Partner (CHAP), National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP), National Dialysis Accreditation Commission (NDAC), The Compliance Team (TCT), Utilization Review Accreditation Commission (URAC). These other accrediting agencies are not currently recognized in the MCA. The current statutory limitation means the OIG Licensure Bureau is unable to accept the additional accrediting agencies not identified in MCA 50-5-103. This results in OIG Licensure Bureau staff being required to conduct another survey on facilities that have already completed a full accreditation survey through other accrediting agencies which are recognized outside of the Department. This is both cumbersome on facilities and wastes taxpayer dollars to conduct surveys when an accrediting agency has already conducted a survey to ensure compliance with state and federal regulations.

### 2. What do you want the legislation to do?

Update the current MCA to allow additional qualified accrediting agencies to be recognized and accepted by the Department for accreditation of healthcare facilities. The amended MCA will be structured as a non-exhaustive list of accrediting agencies so when more accrediting agencies are recognized by the federal government granting recognition by the Department will not require another statutory change.

### 3. If possible, please list the MCA (Montana Code Annotated) sections that would need to be amended.

MCA 50-5-103.

### 4. If the proposed change requires additional funding, what funding sources do you propose?

No fiscal impact.

5. **Has similar legislation been requested in the past, been introduced in another state, or provided as a model act? If so, please provide a citation, reference, or point of contact.**

N/A