

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001**

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SENATE BILL 722*

Short Title: Long-Term Care/Post Staffing.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Purcell; Kinnaird and Lucas.

Referred to: Health Care.

March 29, 2001

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THAT LONG TERM-CARE FACILITIES POST
2 INFORMATION ABOUT STAFFING LEVELS.
3

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 131D-4.3(a) reads as rewritten:

6 "(a) Pursuant to G.S. 143B-165, the North Carolina Medical Care Commission
7 shall adopt rules to ensure at a minimum, but shall not be limited to, the provision of the
8 following by adult care homes:

9 (1) Repealed by Session Laws 2000-111, s. 1.

10 (2) A minimum of 75 hours of training for personal care aides performing
11 heavy care tasks and a minimum of 40 hours of training for all
12 personal care aides. The training for aides providing heavy care tasks
13 shall be comparable to State-approved Certified Nurse Aide I training.
14 For those aides meeting the 40-hour requirement, at least 20 hours
15 shall be classroom training to include at a minimum:

- 16 a. Basic nursing skills;
- 17 b. Personal care skills;
- 18 c. Cognitive, behavioral, and social care;
- 19 d. Basic restorative services;
- 20 e. Residents' rights.

21 A minimum of 20 hours of training shall be provided for aides in
22 family care homes that do not have heavy care residents. Persons who
23 either pass a competency examination developed by the Department of
24 Health and Human Services, have been employed as personal care
25 aides for a period of time as established by the Department, or meet
26 minimum requirements of a combination of training, testing, and
27 experience as established by the Department shall be exempt from the
28 training requirements of this subdivision;

- 1 (3) Monitoring and supervision of residents;
2 (4) Oversight and quality of care as stated in G.S. 131D-4.1; and
3 (5) Adult care homes shall comply with all of the following staffing
4 requirements:
5 a. First shift (morning): 0.4 hours of aide duty for each resident
6 (licensed capacity or resident census), or 8.0 hours of aide duty
7 per each 20 residents (licensed capacity or resident census) plus
8 3.0 hours for all other residents, whichever is greater;
9 b. Second shift (afternoon): 0.4 hours of aide duty for each
10 resident (licensed capacity or resident census), or 8.0 hours of
11 aide duty per each 20 residents plus 3.0 hours for all other
12 residents (licensed capacity or resident census), whichever is
13 greater;
14 c. Third shift (evening): 8.0 hours of aide duty per 30 or fewer
15 residents (licensed capacity or resident census).

16 In addition to these requirements, the facility shall provide staff to
17 meet the needs of the facility's heavy care residents equal to the
18 amount of time reimbursed by Medicaid. As used in this subdivision,
19 the term "heavy care resident" means an individual residing in an adult
20 care home who is defined "heavy care" by Medicaid and for which the
21 facility is receiving enhanced Medicaid payments for such needs. Each
22 facility shall post in a conspicuous place information about staffing
23 that enables residents and their families to ascertain each day the
24 number of direct care staff and supervisors that are on duty for each
25 shift for that day."

26 **SECTION 2.** Part A of Article 6 of Chapter 131E of the General Statutes is
27 amended by adding the following new section to read:

28 **"§ 131E-114.1. Posting of information indicating number of staff on duty.**

29 Every nursing home subject to licensure under this Part shall post in a conspicuous
30 place in the nursing home information about staffing that enables residents and their
31 families to readily ascertain each day the number of direct care staff and supervisors that
32 are on duty for each shift for that day."

33 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2001.