
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SKILLED NURSING FACILITY LICENSING.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there are
2 organizations such as The Joint Commission, which provide
3 accreditation or certification for skilled nursing facilities.
4 Authorizing the department of health to recognize these
5 organizations and accept their accreditation and certification
6 reviews to establish a skilled nursing facility's compliance
7 with all licensing requirements of the State will allow the
8 department to effectively continue its regulatory oversight
9 responsibilities for licensing purposes and more efficiently use
10 its limited resources for other oversight activities.

11 The purpose of this Act is to authorize the department of
12 health to accept nationally recognized accreditation or
13 certification organizations to demonstrate a skilled nursing
14 facility's compliance with the licensing inspections required by
15 the State.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 321, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and
3 to read as follows:

4 "PART . SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES

5 §321- Skilled nursing facilities. (a) All skilled
6 nursing facilities shall be licensed by the department of health
7 to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the individuals
8 placed therein.

9 (b) The director of health shall adopt rules pursuant to
10 chapter 91 that shall provide for the licensing of skilled
11 nursing facilities.

12 (c) The rules shall provide that accreditation by The
13 Joint Commission or other nationally recognized accreditation or
14 certification organization demonstrates a skilled nursing
15 facility's compliance with all licensing inspections required by
16 the State. The rules may exempt a skilled nursing facility from
17 a licensing inspection on a continuing basis throughout the term
18 of the accreditation or certification under the following
19 conditions:



1 (1) The skilled nursing facility provides a certified copy
2 of the facility's official accreditation or
3 certification report to the department;

4 (2) The skilled nursing facility continuously holds full
5 accreditation or certification by the accreditation or
6 certification organization; and

7 (3) The skilled nursing facility holds a current and valid
8 state license.

9 (d) The rules shall provide that the department may
10 conduct inspections and investigations of exempt skilled nursing
11 facilities regarding complaints, adverse accreditation or
12 certification findings, or periodic validation surveys.

13 (e) Information contained in reports of survey and
14 official accreditation or certification letters made by the
15 accreditation or certification organization used in determining
16 compliance with licensing requirements shall be public
17 information.

18 (f) All other records maintained by the department shall
19 be governed by chapter 92F."

20 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2060.



S.B. NO. 1150
S.D. 1
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Report Title:

Skilled Nursing Facility; Licensing; Department of Health

Description:

Authorizes the department of health to recognize national accreditation or certification organizations. Effective 7/1/2060. (HD1)

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