



1           **§ -1 Care Facility Licensing.** As a condition of a care  
2 facility subject to this chapter being licensed or relicensed,  
3 it shall successfully complete training classes on infectious  
4 disease control and prevention provided by an accredited vendor  
5 or division of the State. The training classes shall be  
6 provided to all staff members of the care facility, and the  
7 record of each staff member's attendance shall be documented by  
8 the facility. New staff members employed by the care facility  
9 shall attend the required training and the staff member's  
10 attendance must be documented within forty-five days of hire.

11           **§ -2 Inspections.** The department of health shall  
12 conduct scheduled annual inspections of each care facility. In  
13 addition, an unscheduled inspection of each facility shall be  
14 performed at least annually. If a care facility is found to not  
15 be in compliance with this section, the department of health  
16 shall conduct a follow up inspection as needed to ensure  
17 compliance and that corrective action was taken.

18           **§ -3 Application for Leadership.** Any person applying to  
19 become the head administrator of a care facility shall:

20           (1) Have at least five years of experience working in an  
21           administrative position of a care facility;



1           (2) Provide documentation of any applicable training and  
2           certification; and

3           (3) Provide references from previous places of employment  
4           that demonstrate skill in communication with staff.

5           §   -4 **Continuing training.** Each care facility shall  
6           establish an ongoing training program for all staff, that  
7           teaches protocols for infectious diseases and that shall include  
8           protocols for contacting the appropriate county disaster  
9           response agency, Hawaii emergency management agency, or the  
10          Hawaii emergency response team, as applicable.

11          §   -5 **Staffing.** Each care facility shall maintain  
12          adequate staffing, including dedicated staff to redirect  
13          wandering patients to comply with infectious disease guidelines  
14          and protocols.

15          §   -6 **Hotline.** The department of health shall establish  
16          an anonymous hotline for staff, patients, and relatives of  
17          patients to call to report inadequacies of any care facility in  
18          the State.

19          §   -7 **Common spaces.** Dining, group activity, or any  
20          other room that accommodates five or more people shall be  
21          closed; provided that they may be reopened pursuant and subject



1 to guidelines and protocols established by the department of  
2 health.

3       §   -8   **Staff rotations and assignments.** Staff that are  
4 assigned to work with patients or residents infected with an  
5 infectious disease may not work with patients or residents who  
6 are not infected with that infectious disease. The staff  
7 included by this section shall include kitchen, maintenance or  
8 any other staff needed in the performance of daily duties.

9       §   -9   **Personal protective equipment.** Shift leaders shall  
10 document inventory of personal protective equipment at each  
11 shift change. Shift leaders shall review infectious disease  
12 guidelines before each shift and maintain updated patient  
13 information. Personal protective equipment shall include gowns,  
14 masks, gloves, shoe booties, sanitation stations and a locker  
15 room with shower to change out of work garments and shoes to be  
16 bagged for immediate laundry. Shoes worn at the care facility  
17 shall not be worn outside the facility.

18       §   -10   **Recordkeeping.** Each care facility shall keep a  
19 record of each patient that includes the patient's medical  
20 conditions, advanced directions, whether the patient can wear a  
21 mask, and whether the patient wanders due to condition or



1 medication. An inspection of these records shall be performed  
2 by the department of health at scheduled and unscheduled  
3 inspections as described in this chapter."

4 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval  
5 and shall be repealed on June 30, 2026.

6

INTRODUCED BY:

*Rosely H Baker*  
*By Request*



# S.B. NO. 237

**Report Title:**

Veterans homes; Long term care; Nursing facilities; COVID-19

**Description:**

Raises the standard of care for the State's veteran homes, long term care facilities and nursing homes in response to the COVID-19 pandemic by describing requirements for care facility licensing and leadership, implementing standards of recordkeeping, creating protocols for emergencies and personal protective equipment, and establishes a hotline for complaints. Sunsets 6/30/2026.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

