# Washington State House of Representatives

BILL ANALYSIS

Office of Program Research

# Health Care & Wellness Committee

## **HB 3204**

**Brief Description:** Establishing requirements for boarding homes that withdraw from medicaid participation.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Morrell, Campbell and Green.

## **Brief Summary of Bill**

- Prohibits a boarding home from transferring or discharging a current resident on the basis that it is voluntarily withdrawing from the Medicaid program.
- Requires notice to persons beginning residence after the effective date of the act that the boarding home is not participating in the Medicaid program and the person may be transferred or discharged if they are unable to pay the facility charges.

**Hearing Date:** 2/4/08

**Staff:** Dave Knutson (786-7146).

#### **Background:**

Federal law provides that a nursing home may not transfer or discharge a resident if they become eligible for the Medicaid program while residing in the facility and are unable to pay what the facility charges for a private-pay resident. There is no comparable prohibition related to Boarding Homes.

### **Summary of Bill:**

A boarding home is prohibited from transferring or discharging a current resident on the basis that it is voluntarily withdrawing from the Medicaid program. Boarding homes must provide notice to persons beginning residence after the effective date of the act that the boarding home is not participating in the Medicaid program and the person may be transferred or discharged if they are unable to pay the facility charges.

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This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Appropriation: None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

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