
ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 1347

State of Washington

60th Legislature

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By Representatives Schual-Berke, Kagi, Morrell, Haigh, Green, Kessler, Cody, Appleton, Ormsby, Hunter, Kenney, O'Brien, Springer, Santos and Campbell

Read first time 01/17/2007. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to emergency response plans for long-term care
2 facilities; amending RCW 71A.12.080; adding a new section to chapter
3 18.20 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 18.51 RCW; adding a new
4 section to chapter 70.128 RCW; and creating a new section.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 18.20 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 (1) The department shall require emergency response plans for all
9 boarding homes licensed under this chapter. The emergency response
10 plans shall include detailed written plans and procedures to address
11 potential emergencies and disasters such as fires, earthquakes, floods,
12 and wind storms. The plans must provide for an alternative power
13 source that provides the facility with a minimum of seventy-two hours
14 of emergency power, unless additional hours are required by state or
15 federal regulations. The alternative power source must provide enough
16 power for any emergency life support systems and medical equipment,
17 lighting for emergency evacuations and in dining and recreation areas,
18 and heating equipment to provide heating for resident rooms or a room
19 or rooms to which all residents can be moved. The facility shall

1 coordinate its emergency response plan with a local organization for
2 emergency management established in accordance with the state
3 comprehensive emergency management plan, as provided in RCW 38.52.070.

4 (2) Boarding homes under this section shall train all employees in
5 emergency procedures when they begin working at the facility,
6 periodically review emergency procedures with existing staff, and carry
7 out quarterly drills using those procedures including fully evacuating
8 the facility once each calendar year.

9 (3) The department may adopt fire emergency evacuation drill
10 standards that consider the fire and life safety construction features
11 of the building.

12 (4) The department shall review emergency response plans as part of
13 the facility inspection, to determine compliance with this section.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 18.51 RCW
15 to read as follows:

16 (1) The department shall require emergency response plans for all
17 nursing homes licensed under this chapter. The emergency response
18 plans shall include detailed written plans and procedures to address
19 potential emergencies and disasters such as fires, earthquakes, floods,
20 and wind storms. The plans must provide for an alternative power
21 source that provides the facility with a minimum of ninety-six hours of
22 emergency power. The alternative power source must provide enough
23 power for any emergency life support systems and medical equipment,
24 lighting for emergency evacuations and in dining and recreation areas,
25 and heating equipment to provide heating for resident rooms or a room
26 or rooms to which all residents can be moved. The facility shall
27 coordinate its emergency response plan with a local organization for
28 emergency management established in accordance with the state
29 comprehensive emergency management plan, as provided in RCW 38.52.070.

30 (2) Nursing homes under this section shall train all employees in
31 emergency procedures when they begin working at the facility,
32 periodically review emergency procedures with existing staff, and carry
33 out quarterly drills using those procedures.

34 (3) The department may adopt fire emergency evacuation drill
35 standards that consider the fire and life safety construction features
36 of the building.

1 (4) The department shall review emergency response plans as part of
2 the facility inspection, to determine compliance with this section.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 70.128 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) The department shall require emergency response plans for all
6 adult family homes licensed under this chapter. The emergency response
7 plans shall include detailed written plans and procedures to address
8 potential emergencies and disasters such as fires, earthquakes, floods,
9 and wind storms. The plans must provide for an approved alternative
10 heat source. An adult family home that serves residents on life
11 support systems must provide an alternative power source. The facility
12 shall coordinate its emergency response plan with a local organization
13 for emergency management established in accordance with the state
14 comprehensive emergency management plan, as provided in RCW 38.52.070.

15 (2) Adult family homes under this section shall train all employees
16 in emergency procedures when they begin working at the facility,
17 periodically review emergency procedures with existing staff, and carry
18 out quarterly drills using those procedures including fully evacuating
19 the facility once each calendar year.

20 (3) The department may adopt fire emergency evacuation drill
21 standards that consider the fire and life safety construction features
22 of the building.

23 (4) The department is authorized to waive the requirement that an
24 adult family home have an approved alternative heat source if the home
25 demonstrates a financial hardship. Adult family homes receiving a
26 waiver under this subsection shall display prominently their absence of
27 a backup heat source to current and potential residents.

28 (5) The department shall review emergency response plans as part of
29 the facility inspection, to determine compliance with this section.

30 **Sec. 4.** RCW 71A.12.080 and 1988 c 176 s 208 are each amended to
31 read as follows:

32 (1) The secretary shall adopt rules concerning the eligibility of
33 residents of residential habilitation centers for placement in
34 community residential programs under this title; determination of
35 ability of such persons or their estates to pay all or a portion of the
36 cost of care, support, and training; the manner and method of licensing

1 or certification and inspection and approval of such community
2 residential programs for placement under this title; and procedures for
3 the payment of costs of care, maintenance, and training in community
4 residential programs. The rules shall include standards for care,
5 maintenance, and training to be met by such community residential
6 programs. The rules may also include standards for health, safety, and
7 emergency response planning.

8 (2) The secretary shall coordinate state activities and resources
9 relating to placement in community residential programs to help
10 efficiently expend state and local resources and, to the extent
11 designated funds are available, create an effective community
12 residential program.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The department of social and health services
14 shall adopt rules implementing this act.

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