

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## HB 1694

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**As Reported by House Committee On:**  
Health Care

**Title:** An act relating to the timing of the inspection of boarding homes.

**Brief Description:** Requiring the department of social and health services to inspect boarding homes at least every eighteen months.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Morrell, Campbell, Cody, Skinner, Clibborn and Dickerson; by request of Department of Social and Health Services.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:**

Health Care: 2/12/03, 2/20/03 [DPS].

**Brief Summary of Substitute Bill**

- Changes the inspection cycle for boarding homes from annually to at least every 18 months, with a 12-month average.

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE

**Majority Report:** The substitute bill be substituted therefor and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by 13 members: Representatives Cody, Chair; Morrell, Vice Chair; Pflug, Ranking Minority Member; Bailey, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Alexander, Benson, Campbell, Clibborn, Darneille, Edwards, Moeller, Schual-Berke and Skinner.

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

**Background:**

Boarding homes are currently inspected by the Department of Social and Health Services (Department ) at least annually. The Department also inspects adult family homes. The inspection cycle for adult family homes is at least every 18 months.

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**Summary of Substitute Bill:**

The inspection cycle for boarding homes is changed from annually to at least every 18 months, with a 12-month average.

**Substitute Bill Compared to Original Bill:**

The inspection cycle must average 12 months.

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**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not Requested.

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

**Testimony For:** Lengthening the inspection cycle will give Department staff greater flexibility in deciding when to inspect boarding homes.

**Testimony Against:** Eighteen months is too long to go between inspections.

**Testified:** (In support) Pat Lashway, Department of Social and Health Services.

(Opposed) Kary Hyre, Long-term Care Ombudsman.