Government Oversight Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.:SB-1468
AN ACT CONCERNING GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY.Vote Date:3/18/2025Vote Action:Joint Favorable SubstitutePH Date:3/11/2025File No.:Image: Substitute

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Government Oversight Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill's section 1 adds that the Comptroller must consult with OPM to establish procedures around the use of P-Cards. This bill goes on to require these procedures to include the following: which employees are eligible to use P-Cards, the types of authorized transactions, limits to the amounts authorized and what can be charged, the timing of submitted receipts regarding P-cards and the process for agency approval of P-card reports. This bill also requires each budgeted agency to appoint an employee to serve as its P-Card Coordinator with the responsibility of ensuring the agency's compliance and procedures. Section 2 creates definitions for "personal hygiene" under the statutes for homemaker-companion agencies. This bill creates required training for applicants seeking a certificate of registration as a homemaker-companion. Sec 5 requires DCP, in consultation with DPH to create a list of approved trainings for homemaker-companion agency employees, post this list on DCP's website and notify each homemaker-companion agency of this list's availability.

SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE:

Added provision requiring digitization of receipts for P-cards.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Bryan T. Cafferelli: Commissioner of the Department of Consumer Protection:

The Department of Consumer Protection supports the intent of this bill and the need to address training for homemaker companion agency employees. They recommend limiting the scope of the training mandated for HCA employees to those activities they are authorized to engage in. Mr. Cafferelli feels this legislation has the right intentions but leaves the Department of Consumer Protection stretched too thin based on current allotted resources.

This would result in less qualified individuals taking up positions in the home care industry which would further strain an industry with many existing issues and create much confusion regarding the industry's scope over home care, creating more potential legal issues which prevents care from being administered.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

None Expressed

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

Marlene Chickerella: Chair, Home Care Association of America:

Opposes this bill due to some confusing language contradictory to current regulations. Specifically, they take issue with certain definitions of care practiced by members of the profession which could create confusion when training or administering care. It also increases costs of registration which increases barriers to entry of the industry, which could turn away potential talent in the future.

Reported by: Greg Wolff

Date: 3/26/25