
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 1395

AN ACT ESTABLISHING LICENSURE FOR LONG-TERM ACUTE CARE HOSPITALS AND REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TO STUDY THE DESIGNATION OF LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES AND CHRONIC DISEASE HOSPITALS.

SUMMARY

This bill specifically adds long-term acute care hospitals (that is, those that qualify as long-term care hospitals under federal Medicare law) to the list of health care institutions that require Department of Public Health (DPH) licensure. The law already requires them to be licensed (they are currently licensed as chronic disease hospitals).

Generally, under federal Medicare law, long-term care hospitals are those (1) primarily engaged in providing inpatient services to Medicare patients with complex conditions requiring a long hospital stay (with average stays exceeding 25 days) and (2) that meet various criteria on services, patient screening, staffing, and related matters.

The bill also requires the DPH commissioner to study the regulatory framework of long-term acute care hospitals, including (1) any regulatory burdens, such as duplicative employee fingerprinting requirements; (2) whether current oversight mechanisms are appropriate; and (3) any regulatory inconsistencies and how they impact these hospitals' timely and effective delivery of care. By January 1, 2026, she must report on the study and any related legislative recommendations to the Public Health Committee.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025, except the study provisions take effect upon passage.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 32 Nay 0 (03/21/2025)