



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 9465



Offered by:

SEN. GADKAR-WILCOX, 22nd Dist.

REP. DATHAN, 142nd Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1468

File No. 496

Cal. No. 290

**"AN ACT CONCERNING GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY
REGARDING AGENCY PURCHASE CARD USE AND
REGISTRATION OF HOMEMAKER-COMPANION AGENCIES AND
TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR THEIR EMPLOYEES."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Section 4-98 of the general statutes is repealed and the
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

5 (a) Except for such emergency purchases as are made by a budgeted
6 agency under regulations adopted by the Commissioner of
7 Administrative Services, no budgeted agency or any agent thereof shall
8 incur any obligation, by order, contract or otherwise, except by the issue
9 of a purchase order or any other documentation approved by the
10 Comptroller, necessary to process the transaction transmitted by the
11 budgeted agency or its agents to the commissioner and the Comptroller,
12 provided the amount to be charged against the appropriation for a

13 budgeted agency in any year for a purchase order for a current
14 expenditure shall be the amount anticipated to be spent in such year.
15 The amount to be charged against the appropriation for any budgeted
16 agency in any year for a capital expenditure, including an installment
17 purchase, shall be the state's total cost for such capital expenditure
18 unless otherwise authorized by the General Assembly or approved by
19 the Finance Advisory Committee. Upon the receipt of any such
20 purchase order or any other documentation approved by the
21 Comptroller necessary to process the transaction, the Comptroller shall
22 immediately charge the same to the specific appropriation of the
23 budgeted agency issuing the same and certify on the face of the
24 purchase order or approve such other documentation that the purchase
25 is approved and recorded, if the proposed purchase is within the
26 applicable specific appropriation and the budgeted agency has
27 unencumbered funds sufficient to defray such expenditure. In
28 transactions requiring purchase orders, the Comptroller shall promptly
29 transmit such certified purchase order to the vendor named in the
30 purchase order.

31 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
32 the Comptroller may delegate to any budgeted agency the certification
33 and transmission requirements of purchase orders using authorized
34 electronic methods, provided such agency transmits the information
35 contained in such purchase orders to the Comptroller. Upon receipt of
36 any such electronic transmission, the Comptroller shall immediately
37 charge the same to the specific appropriation of the budgeted agency
38 issuing the same and shall electronically certify that the purchase is
39 approved and recorded, if the proposed purchase is within the
40 applicable specific appropriation and the budgeted agency has
41 unencumbered funds sufficient to defray such expenditure. Upon
42 receipt of the Comptroller's certification, the budgeted agency shall
43 transmit the purchase order to the vendor named in the purchase order.

44 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) or (b) of this
45 section, the Comptroller may allow budgeted agencies to use

46 purchasing cards for purchases not exceeding two hundred fifty
47 thousand dollars, unless such agency receives written approval from the
48 Comptroller and the Commissioner of Administrative Services to
49 exceed such amount. No budgeted agency, or any official, employee or
50 agent of a budgeted agency, shall incur any obligation using such a card,
51 except in accordance with the most recent procedures established by the
52 Comptroller. Any such procedures established on or after October 1,
53 2025, shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) prescribing which
54 employees are eligible to use such card and limitations concerning such
55 use, (2) the types of transactions that are authorized to be charged on
56 the card, (3) limitations on the amounts authorized to be charged for
57 travel, meals and entertainment purposes, (4) the timing of submission
58 of receipts or other reporting concerning the use of such card, (5) a
59 requirement for the digitization of all such receipts or other reporting in
60 CORE-CT or other applicable system, (6) the process for agency
61 approval of reports concerning the use of such card, and (7) specific
62 remedies for noncompliance. Each budgeted agency shall implement
63 such procedures, except a budgeted agency may adopt policies that are
64 more stringent than the requirements of this section or the procedures
65 adopted thereunder.

66 (d) Each budgeted agency shall appoint an employee to serve as its
67 purchase card coordinator, who shall be responsible for ensuring the
68 agency's compliance with the procedures adopted under this section
69 and such agency shall inform the Comptroller of such appointment.
70 Such coordinator shall (1) authorize the issuance of purchase cards to an
71 employee upon the determination by such employee's supervisor that
72 such employee should have such authorization, (2) review receipts or
73 other documentation of transactions made using the card by agency
74 employees and ensure such receipts or documentation are entered into
75 CORE-CT or other applicable system, (3) establish, in accordance with
76 procedures of the Comptroller, dollar limits for the use of such card by
77 agency employees, and (4) deauthorize any employee from using the
78 card who is not providing receipts or other documentation of
79 transactions within the time period established by the agency

80 procedures or who is otherwise not complying with the procedures.

81 (e) Not later than August 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, each
82 budgeted agency that paid for an expense using a purchasing card
83 during the immediately preceding fiscal year shall report to the
84 Comptroller, on a form prescribed by the Comptroller, concerning its
85 usage of such cards during the preceding fiscal year, and any
86 enforcement of violations of the policies of this section.

87 Sec. 2. Section 20-670 of the general statutes is repealed and the
88 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

89 As used in sections 20-670 to 20-682, inclusive, and section 3 of this
90 act:

91 (1) "Certificate" means a certificate of registration issued under
92 section 20-672, as amended by this act.

93 (2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Consumer
94 Protection or any person designated by the commissioner to administer
95 and enforce the provisions of sections [20-670] 20-671 to 20-682,
96 inclusive.

97 (3) "Companion services" means nonmedical, basic supervision
98 services to ensure the safety and well-being of a person in the person's
99 home.

100 (4) "Covenant not to compete" means any agreement or contract that
101 restricts the right of an individual to provide companion services, home
102 health services or homemaker services (A) in any geographic area of the
103 state for any period of time, or (B) to a specific individual.

104 (5) "Comprehensive background check" means a background
105 investigation of a prospective employee performed by a homemaker-
106 companion agency, that includes (A) a review of any application
107 materials prepared or requested by the homemaker-companion agency
108 and completed by the prospective employee, (B) an in-person or video-

109 conference interview of the prospective employee, (C) verification of the
110 prospective employee's Social Security number, (D) if the prospective
111 employee has applied for a position within the homemaker-companion
112 agency that requires licensure on the part of such prospective employee,
113 verification that the required license is in good standing, (E) a check of
114 the registry established and maintained pursuant to section 54-257, (F)
115 a local and national criminal background check of criminal matters of
116 public record based on the prospective employee's name and date of
117 birth that includes a search of a multistate and multijurisdiction criminal
118 record locator or other similar commercial nationwide database with
119 validation, and a search of the United States Department of Justice
120 National Sex Offender Public Website, conducted by a third-party
121 consumer reporting agency or background screening company that is
122 accredited by the Professional Background Screening Association and
123 in compliance with the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, (G) if the
124 prospective employee has resided in this state for less than three years
125 prior to the date of such prospective employee's application with the
126 homemaker-companion agency, a review of criminal conviction
127 information from the state or states where such prospective employee
128 resided during such three-year period, and (H) a review of any other
129 information that the homemaker-companion agency deems necessary in
130 order to evaluate the suitability of the prospective employee for the
131 position.

132 (6) "Employee" means any person employed by, or who enters into a
133 contract to perform services for, a homemaker-companion agency,
134 including, but not limited to, pool employees, temporary employees
135 and persons the homemaker-companion agency treats as independent
136 contractors.

137 (7) (A) "Homemaker-companion agency" means any (i) public or
138 private organization that employs one or more persons and is engaged
139 in the business of providing companion services or homemaker
140 services, or (ii) registry.

141 (B) "Homemaker-companion agency" does not include (i) a home

142 health care agency, as defined in subsection (d) of section 19a-490, or (ii)
143 a home health aide agency, as defined in subsection (e) of section 19a-
144 490.

145 (8) "Homemaker services" means nonmedical and supportive
146 services, including verbal medication reminders, assistance with
147 cooking, household cleaning, laundry, personal hygiene and other
148 household chores, that ensure a healthy and safe environment for a
149 person in the person's home.

150 (9) "Immediate family member" means a child by adoption, blood or
151 marriage or a grandchild, grandparent, parent, sibling or spouse.

152 (10) "Personal hygiene" includes bathing an individual using a
153 sponge, tub or shower; shampooing an individual in a sink, tub or bed;
154 nail and skin care; oral hygiene; grooming; dressing; toileting and
155 elimination and ambulating and transferring.

156 [(10)] (11) "Registry" means any person or entity engaged in the
157 business of supplying or referring an individual to, or placing an
158 individual with, a consumer for the purpose of enabling the individual
159 to provide to the consumer companion services or homemaker services,
160 provided such individual is (A) directly compensated, in whole or in
161 part, by the consumer, or (B) considered, referred to or treated by such
162 person or entity as an independent contractor.

163 [(11)] (12) "Service plan" means a written document, provided by a
164 homemaker-companion agency to a person utilizing companion
165 services or homemaker services provided by such agency, that specifies
166 the anticipated duration, frequency, scope and type of the companion
167 services or homemaker services that are to be provided by such agency
168 for the benefit of such person.

169 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) Not later than January 1,
170 2027, the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, in consultation with
171 the Commissioner of Public Health, shall develop and provide
172 homemaker-companion agencies with a list of approved homemaker-

173 companion agency employee training programs appropriate for use by
174 homemaker-companion agencies providing or facilitating mandatory
175 employee training pursuant to the provisions of subsection (b) of this
176 section. The list of approved homemaker-companion agency employee
177 training programs shall be limited to programs concerning (1)
178 communication, (2) maintenance of a clean and safe environment,
179 including, but not limited to, best practices relating to dressing, bathing,
180 ambulating, transferring and toileting assistance, (3) identification and
181 reporting of abuse and neglect, (4) providing nonmedical services to a
182 person with Alzheimer's disease or dementia, (5) identifying and
183 reporting changes in a homemaker-companion agency's client's
184 condition and service needs, and (6) the delineation between medical
185 and nonmedical care.

186 (b) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (4) of this subsection, on and
187 after July 1, 2027 any homemaker-companion agency that employs five
188 or more employees who perform or may perform homemaker services
189 or companion services shall require any such employees employed prior
190 to July 1, 2027, to complete at least four of the training programs
191 described in subsection (a) of this section.

192 (2) Except as provided in subdivision (4) of this subsection, each
193 homemaker-companion agency shall provide or facilitate not less than
194 eight hours of initial training comprised of at least four of the programs
195 on the list of approved homemaker-companion agency employee
196 training programs developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section
197 to each employee hired on or after July 1, 2027, not later than ninety days
198 after such employee begins employment with the agency.

199 (3) The homemaker-companion agency shall pay the employee for
200 the time such employee spends attending the required training
201 programs, which pay shall be at a rate commensurate with the salary or
202 hourly wage paid to such employee for providing homemaker services
203 or companion services. The homemaker-companion agency shall also
204 pay for any costs associated with the training programs for such
205 agency's employees.

206 (4) (A) An employee of a homemaker-companion agency who has
207 completed the training required under this section and obtained an
208 attestation described under subsection (c) of this section shall not be
209 required to complete any additional training programs if such employee
210 leaves such employee's position with the homemaker-companion
211 agency but resumes employment with such agency within one year of
212 the date of the employee's departure from employment.

213 (B) If an employee hired by a homemaker-companion agency on or
214 after July 1, 2027, has completed the training required under this section
215 while employed by a different homemaker-companion agency within
216 the three years preceding the date of hire, the hiring homemaker-
217 companion agency may consider such prior training to satisfy the
218 training requirements of this section, provided the employee furnishes
219 the attestation described under subsection (c) of this section to such
220 agency.

221 (c) Upon completion of the training programs, each homemaker-
222 companion agency and employee shall attest, in a form and manner
223 prescribed by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, that the
224 employee completed the trainings required under subsection (b) of this
225 section. Such form shall include the name of the homemaker-companion
226 agency and the training programs completed by each employee.

227 (d) Each homemaker-companion agency, and each person in charge,
228 or having custody, of the attestations required under subsection (c) of
229 this section, shall maintain the attestations and all other documents
230 required pursuant to this section in an auditable format for the current
231 taxable year and the three preceding taxable years. Upon request, the
232 homemaker-companion agency shall make such documents
233 immediately available for inspection and copying by the commissioner,
234 and shall produce copies of such documents to the commissioner or the
235 commissioner's authorized representative within two business days of
236 such request. Such documents shall be provided to the commissioner in
237 electronic format, unless not commercially practical.

238 (e) Not later than January 1, 2028, and annually thereafter upon
239 registration renewal, each homemaker-companion agency shall submit
240 to the Department of Consumer Protection, in a form and manner
241 prescribed by the commissioner, an attestation that such homemaker-
242 companion agency is in compliance with the training requirements of
243 this section. A homemaker-companion agency shall maintain a list of
244 training programs used by such homemaker-companion agency,
245 including content summaries of such programs, and shall maintain a
246 paper or electronic copy of all forms relating to employees employed by
247 the agency that are required pursuant to this section.

248 Sec. 4. Subsection (b) of section 20-672 of the general statutes is
249 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
250 *1, 2025*):

251 (b) Each application for a certificate of registration as a homemaker-
252 companion agency shall be accompanied by a fee of [three] four
253 hundred [seventy-five] fifty dollars."

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 4-98 |
| Sec. 2 | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 20-670 |
| Sec. 3 | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | New section |
| Sec. 4 | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 20-672(b) |

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| Section 1 | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 4-98 |
| Sec. 2 | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 20-670 |
| Sec. 3 | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | New section |
| Sec. 4 | <i>October 1, 2025</i> | 20-672(b) |