

Senate Workforce Amendment Summary

- Directs required SNF quality improvement projects to workforce.
- Changes conditional employment while waiting for background check from BCI from 30 days to 60 days, consistent with other programs, so providers don't feel they must discharge workers because of BCI delays.
- Nurse aide training reforms:
 - Changes term to "certified nurse aide" (CNA), as used in other states, to enhance dignity of position.
 - Expands who can test CNAs beyond single state contractor.
 - Broadens experience requirement for training instructors if program coordinator has SNF experience.
 - Recognizes federal waiver of nurse aide training ban for survey issues.
 - Allows ODH to assign a unique identifier so individuals without SSN can take CNA test.
- Medication aide reforms:
 - Transfers medication aide program from Board of Nursing (OBN) to ODH, including training program approval.
 - Removes ICFs/IID from program because DODD has its own medication administration program.
 - Removes requirements to be a CNA or have one year's experience working in a residential care facility (RCF).
 - Removes OBN license disqualifiers and adds ODH disqualifiers for direct care in a SNF/RCF.
 - Adds language on renewal process, fees, and continuing education.
 - Removes OBN disciplinary provisions.
 - Adds term "certified medication aide" (CMA), requires ODH to maintain registry of CMAs.
 - Reduces training course hours from 70 to 30.
 - Allows training program to test instead of state-contracted service.
 - Changes nurse delegation to supervision.
 - Expands medications CMA can administer.
 - Rules for program cannot exceed statute.
- Requires Department of Higher Education to develop an ITAG (Industry Recognized Credential Transfer Assurance Guide) to give CNAs credit toward becoming LPNs.