

MAR 2 2005  
HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE 543  
BY FORD

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to direct care workers, including the  
2 establishment of a direct care worker advisory council and  
3 expansion of the Iowa nurse aide registry, and providing an  
4 appropriation.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 543

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 135.151 DIRECT CARE WORKER  
2 ADVISORY COUNCIL -- ESTABLISHED -- DUTIES.

3 1. A direct care worker advisory council is established in  
4 the Iowa department of public health. The members of the  
5 advisory council shall include representatives of the direct  
6 care workforce, long-term care providers, consumer and  
7 disability advocates, community colleges, licensed nurses, the  
8 Iowa caregivers association, and the Iowa caregivers  
9 association direct care worker advisory council, to be  
10 selected by the governor. The task force shall also include  
11 the director or the director's designee of the Iowa department  
12 of public health, the department of human services, the  
13 department of elder affairs, the department of inspections and  
14 appeals, and the Iowa commission on the status of women, and  
15 members of the general assembly.

16 2. The legislative members of the committee shall be  
17 appointed by the president of the senate, after consultation  
18 with the majority leader and minority leader of the senate,  
19 and by the speaker of the house, after consultation with the  
20 majority leader and the minority leader of the house of  
21 representatives. Members shall serve staggered terms of two  
22 years. Appointments shall comply with sections 69.16 and  
23 69.16A. Vacancies shall be filled by the original appointing  
24 authority and in the manner of the original appointments.

25 3. Nonlegislative members shall receive actual expenses  
26 incurred while serving in their official capacity and may also  
27 be eligible to receive compensation as provided in section  
28 7D.6. Legislative members shall receive compensation pursuant  
29 to section 2.12.

30 4. The advisory council shall select a chairperson,  
31 annually, from its membership. A majority of the members of  
32 the advisory council shall constitute a quorum.

33 5. The direct care worker advisory council shall do all of  
34 the following:

35 a. Identify direct care worker classifications.

1 b. Review and outline the corresponding education and  
2 training rules, regulations, and standards applicable to each  
3 direct care worker classification identified.

4 c. Determine the appropriateness of the education and  
5 training requirements for each direct care worker  
6 classification identified.

7 d. Streamline and maintain the direct care worker  
8 education and training system so that the system benefits the  
9 direct care worker, provider, and consumer and is aligned with  
10 any long-term care redesign plans.

11 e. Provide general oversight and review of direct care  
12 worker education and training requirements.

13 f. Propose changes in state law and rules related to  
14 direct care workers.

15 g. Interface direct care worker education and training  
16 standards with the direct care worker registry maintained by  
17 the department of inspections and appeals.

18 Sec. 2. DIRECT CARE WORKER REGISTRY -- APPROPRIATION.

19 1. The department of inspections and appeals, in  
20 cooperation with the direct care worker advisory council  
21 established in section 135.151, shall create an Iowa direct  
22 care worker registry by expanding the Iowa nurse aide registry  
23 to include direct care workers.

24 2. The department of inspections and appeals shall utilize  
25 the direct care worker classifications and corresponding  
26 education and training rules, regulations, and standards  
27 identified by the direct care worker advisory council in  
28 creating the direct care worker registry.

29 3. There is appropriated to the department of inspections  
30 and appeals from the general fund of the state for the fiscal  
31 year beginning July 1, 2005, and ending June 30, 2006, the  
32 following amount, or so much thereof as is necessary, for the  
33 purpose designated:

34 For creation of the direct care worker registry through  
35 expansion of the Iowa nurse aide registry:

1 ..... \$ 80,000

2 EXPLANATION

3 This bill relates to direct care workers. The bill  
4 establishes a direct care worker advisory council within the  
5 Iowa department of public health. The members of the advisory  
6 council include representatives of the direct care workforce,  
7 long-term care providers, consumer and disability advocates,  
8 community colleges, licensed nurses, the Iowa caregivers  
9 association, and the Iowa caregivers association direct care  
10 worker advisory council, to be selected by the governor.

11 Additionally, the task force membership includes the director  
12 or the director's designee of the Iowa department of public  
13 health, the department of human services, the department of  
14 elder affairs, the department of inspections and appeals, and  
15 the Iowa commission on the status of women, and members of the  
16 general assembly. The bill provides the duties of the council  
17 which include: identifying direct care worker  
18 classifications; reviewing and outlining the corresponding  
19 education and training rules, regulations, and standards  
20 applicable to each direct care worker classification  
21 identified; determining the appropriateness of the education  
22 and training requirements for each direct care worker  
23 classification identified; streamlining and maintaining the  
24 direct care worker education and training system so that the  
25 system benefits the direct care worker, provider, and consumer  
26 and is aligned with any long-term care redesign plans;  
27 providing general oversight and review of direct care worker  
28 education and training requirements; proposing changes in  
29 state law and rule related to direct care workers; and  
30 interfacing direct care worker education and training  
31 standards with the direct care worker registry maintained by  
32 the department of inspections and appeals.

33 The bill also directs the department of inspections and  
34 appeals, in cooperation with the direct care worker advisory  
35 council, to create an Iowa direct care worker registry by

1 expanding the Iowa nurse aide registry to include direct care  
2 workers. The department of inspections and appeals is to  
3 utilize the direct care worker classifications and  
4 corresponding education and training rules, regulations, and  
5 standards identified by the direct care worker advisory  
6 council in creating the direct care worker registry.

7 The bill appropriates \$80,000 to the department of  
8 inspections and appeals from the general fund of the state for  
9 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2005, and ending June 30,  
10 2006, for creation of the direct care worker registry through  
11 expansion of the Iowa nurse aide registry.

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