

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 2193

As Reported By House Committee On:
Health Care

Title: An act relating to renal disease facility health care assistants.

Brief Description: Exempting certain renal disease facilities from health care assistant licensing requirements.

Sponsors: Representatives Veloria, Lisk and Dyer.

Brief History:

Reported by House Committee on:
Health Care, January 25, 1994, DPA.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE

Majority Report: Do pass as amended. Signed by 16 members: Representatives Dellwo, Chair; L. Johnson, Vice Chair; Dyer, Ranking Minority Member; Ballasiotes, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Appelwick; Backlund; Conway; Cooke; Flemming; R. Johnson; Lemmon; Lisk; Mastin; Morris; Thibaudeau and Veloria.

Staff: John Welsh (786-7133).

Background: Health care assistants are unlicensed persons who assist a licensed health provider in providing health care to patients.

By law, health care assistants can be certified by a health care facility to administer injections and perform minor invasive procedures under the supervision of a health care practitioner, in accordance with requirements established by the secretary of the Department of Health. The health care facility must provide the licensing authority with a certified roster of health care assistants who have been certified by the health care authority, and must pay certification fees.

The Department of Health has exempted federally-approved end stage renal dialysis facilities from the requirements of certification because their health care assistants already meet federally-approved training standards. However, because of an attorney-general opinion, this exemption is not clear.

Summary of Amended Bill: Federally approved end-stage renal facilities are expressly exempted from the requirements of certification and the payment of certification fees.

Amended Bill Compared to Original Bill: The amendment clarifies the authority of the department to exempt federally approved renal dialysis facilities from certification.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date of Amended Bill: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Testimony For: The bill clarifies the authority of the department to make this exemption.

Testimony Against: None.

Witnesses: Christopher Blagg, Northwest Kidney Center (pro).