

---

HOUSE BILL 1194

---

State of Washington                      56th Legislature                      1999 Regular Session

By Representatives Pflug, Schual-Berke, Parlette and Cody

Read first time 01/18/1999. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1            AN ACT Relating to a pilot project for third-party accreditation of  
2 boarding homes; and amending 1998 c 92 s 1 (uncodified).

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            **Sec. 1.** 1998 c 92 s 1 (uncodified) is amended to read as follows:

5            (1) The legislature recognizes the need to involve the boarding  
6 home industry, the consumers of assisted living and retirement  
7 services, the long-term care ombudsman, and state regulatory agencies  
8 in the collaborative process of developing standards and procedures for  
9 accreditation of licensed boarding homes. As participants, consumers  
10 can help develop standards that more closely address their needs and  
11 make the accreditation of boarding home providers more meaningful to  
12 them when choosing among competitors. Providers can maintain  
13 flexibility in the marketplace and more quickly recognize and respond  
14 to the changing needs of its client base. Regulatory agencies can save  
15 money and remain assured that performance standards are high. For  
16 these reasons, the legislature finds that it is in the best interests  
17 of the boarding home industry, boarding home consumers, and state  
18 regulatory agencies to support an industry-funded pilot program prior  
19 to changing or developing new standards for boarding home regulation.

1 (2) A coalition of assisted living providers represented by state-  
2 wide assisted living professional trade associations, the long-term  
3 care ombudsman, state regulatory agencies, and consumer groups  
4 representing, but not limited to, the assisted living clientele such as  
5 the senior lobby, the American association of retired persons, and the  
6 alzheimer's association shall develop a plan for implementing a pilot  
7 program for the third-party accreditation of boarding homes licensed  
8 under RCW 18.20.020. The assisted living third-party accreditation  
9 pilot project coalition shall remain active until December 12, 2001.  
10 The pilot plan must be funded by the northwest assisted living  
11 ((federation of America)) facilities association. Funds for conducting  
12 this plan may also be received from other individuals and organizations  
13 in accordance with state law and upon the approval of the northwest  
14 assisted living facilities association. The plan shall review the  
15 overall feasibility of implementation, cost or savings to the  
16 regulating agency, impact on client health, safety, quality of care,  
17 quality of life, and financial and other impacts to the boarding home  
18 industry. ((The)) pilot third-party boarding home accreditation  
19 ((plan)) progress reports shall be presented to the appropriate  
20 committees of the house of representatives and the senate by January 4,  
21 1999 and by January 4, 2000. The final pilot third-party boarding home  
22 accreditation plan shall be submitted to the appropriate committees of  
23 the house of representatives and the senate no later than December 12,  
24 2001.

--- END ---