
SENATE BILL 5775

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Senators Wojahn, Johnson, Thibaudeau, Rasmussen and Costa; by request of Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development

Read first time 02/08/1999. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to volunteer participation in the long-term care
2 ombudsman program; and amending RCW 43.190.060.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.190.060 and 1995 1st sp.s. c 18 s 33 are each
5 amended to read as follows:

6 A long-term care ombudsman shall:

7 (1) Identify, investigate, and resolve complaints made by or on
8 behalf of residents of long-term care facilities relating to
9 ~~((administrative))~~ action, inaction, or decisions, which may adversely
10 affect the health, safety, welfare, and rights of these individuals;

11 (2) Monitor the development and implementation of federal, state,
12 and local laws, rules, regulations, and policies with respect to long-
13 term care facilities in this state;

14 (3) Provide information as appropriate to public agencies regarding
15 the problems of individuals residing in long-term care facilities; and

16 (4) Provide for training volunteers and promoting the development
17 of citizen organizations to participate in the ombudsman program. A
18 trained volunteer long-term care ombudsman ~~((shall be able to identify~~
19 ~~and resolve problems regarding the care of residents in long-term care~~

1 ~~facilities and to assist such residents in the assertion of their civil~~
2 ~~and human rights. However, volunteers shall not be used for complaint~~
3 ~~investigations but may engage in fact-finding activities to determine~~
4 ~~whether a formal complaint should be submitted to the department)) may~~
5 ~~identify, investigate, and resolve complaints made by or on behalf of~~
6 ~~residents of long-term care facilities relating to action, inaction, or~~
7 ~~decisions, which may adversely affect the health, safety, welfare, and~~
8 ~~rights of these individuals.~~

--- END ---