

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SSB 6289

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As Passed Senate, February 11, 2002

**Title:** An act relating to qualifications for adult family home providers and resident managers.

**Brief Description:** Specifying qualifications for adult family home providers and resident managers.

**Sponsors:** Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Fairley, Kohl-Welles and Rasmussen).

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Health & Long-Term Care: 1/24/02, 1/28/02 [DPS].

Passed Senate: 2/11/02, 49-0.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & LONG-TERM CARE

**Majority Report:** That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6289 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators Thibaudeau, Chair; Franklin, Vice Chair; Costa, Deccio, Fraser, Parlette and Winsley.

**Staff:** Rhoda Donkin (786-7198)

**Background:** Adult family homes are long-term care facilities licensed to care for up to six individuals. Anyone who wants to operate one of these facilities must get a license from the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS). The minimum qualifications for getting a license include being at least age 21, completing 320 hours of direct caregiving experience with adults in a licensed setting, and a curriculum of basic training.

Legislation that passed in 2001 added the requirement that adult family home license applicants have proof they graduated from high school or received a GED certificate.

There has been concern that requiring a high school diploma as a prerequisite for applying to be a licensee disqualifies foreign born applicants who have been educated but who don't have a U.S. high school diploma.

**Summary of Bill:** Minimum education requirements for an adult family home applicant are modified to include government-approved public or private education in a foreign country, proof of admission to higher education institutions which are described in the legislation, or successful completion of a registered nursing degree or any medical degree requiring an education. The legislation takes effect on May 1, 2002.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** May 1, 2002.

**Testimony For:** This will open up opportunity for people who have been educated in other countries to qualify as adult family home providers.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Testified:** PRO: Asile Capusan, Eugen Capusan, Luke Esser; Kathy Leitch, DSHS-AASA; Skip Dreps, NW Paralegal; Jeff Thompson, HCA; Ree Sailors, OFM; Audrey Woodin, WSRCC; Bill Day, Adult Family Home Assn.