

ESHB 2473 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Health & Long-Term Care

ADOPTED 02/29/2012

1 On page 1, after line 7, insert the following:

2 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that many
3 residents of skilled nursing facilities are vulnerable and their health
4 and well-being are dependent on their caregivers. The quality, skills,
5 and knowledge of their caregivers are often the key to good care and
6 the need for well-trained caregivers with diverse skill sets is growing
7 as the state's population ages and residents' needs increase.

8 (2) The legislature further finds that the evidence-based practice
9 of allowing nursing assistants certified to administer certain
10 medications and treatments promotes quality and safety for residents in
11 skilled nursing facilities, and that creating opportunities for career
12 advancement and pay improvement through additional training and
13 credentialing will help enhance the working environment for nursing
14 assistants certified in skilled nursing facilities.

15 (3) The legislature further finds that creating continued
16 opportunities for recruitment into nursing practice and career
17 advancement for nursing assistants certified will help ensure quality
18 care for residents, and nurse training programs should recognize the
19 relevant training and experience obtained by these credentialed
20 professionals."

21 Renumber the remaining sections consecutively and correct any
22 internal references accordingly.

ADOPTED 02/29/2012

1 On page 1, line 5 of the title, after "RCW;" strike "creating a new
2 section" and insert "creating new sections"

EFFECT: Adds a legislative findings section to the bill. The legislature finds that:

(1) Residents of skilled nursing facilities are dependent on their caregivers for their health and well-being and the skills and knowledge of these caregivers are important to good care;

(2) Allowing nursing assistants to administer certain medications creates opportunities for career advancement and pay improvement for nursing assistants;

(3) This will ensure quality care for residents and nurse training programs should recognize the relevant training and experience obtained by medication assistants.

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