
SENATE BILL 5177

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session

By Senators Bailey, Keiser, Palumbo, and Conway

Read first time 01/16/17. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring long-term care workers to be trained
2 to recognize hearing loss; and amending RCW 74.39A.074.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 74.39A.074 and 2012 c 164 s 401 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1)(a) (~~Beginning January 7, 2012,~~) Except for long-term care
7 workers exempt from certification under RCW 18.88B.041(1)(a) (~~and,~~
8 ~~until January 1, 2016, those exempt under RCW 18.88B.041(1)(b)~~), all
9 persons hired as long-term care workers must meet the minimum
10 training requirements in this section within one hundred twenty
11 calendar days after the date of being hired (~~or within one hundred~~
12 ~~twenty calendar days after March 29, 2012, whichever is later. In~~
13 ~~computing the time periods in this subsection, the first day is the~~
14 ~~date of hire or March 29, 2012, whichever is applicable~~)).

15 (b) Except as provided in RCW 74.39A.076, the minimum training
16 requirement is seventy-five hours of entry-level training approved by
17 the department. A long-term care worker must successfully complete
18 five of these seventy-five hours before being eligible to provide
19 care.

20 (c) Training required by (d) of this subsection applies toward
21 the training required under RCW 18.20.270 or 70.128.230 or any

1 statutory or regulatory training requirements for long-term care
2 workers employed by community residential service businesses.

3 (d) The seventy-five hours of entry-level training required shall
4 be as follows:

5 (i) Before a long-term care worker is eligible to provide care,
6 he or she must complete:

7 (A) Two hours of orientation training regarding his or her role
8 as caregiver and the applicable terms of employment; and

9 (B) Three hours of safety training, including basic safety
10 precautions, emergency procedures, and infection control; and

11 (ii) Seventy hours of long-term care basic training, including
12 training related to core competencies (~~and~~), population specific
13 competencies, and identification of hearing loss in a client and how
14 to seek assistance if hearing loss is suspected.

15 (2) Only training curriculum approved by the department may be
16 used to fulfill the training requirements specified in this section.
17 The department shall only approve training curriculum that:

18 (a) Has been developed with input from consumer and worker
19 representatives; and

20 (b) Requires comprehensive instruction by qualified instructors
21 on the competencies and training topics in this section.

22 (3) Individual providers under RCW 74.39A.270 shall be
23 compensated for training time required by this section.

24 (4) The department shall adopt rules to implement this section.

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