OKLAHOMA STATE SENATE GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

May 28, 2024

Mr. President:

Mr. Speaker:

The Conference Committee, to which was referred

<u>SB1380</u>	
By: Bergstrom of the Senate and Lepak of the House	
Title: Long-term care; directing certain update of and stipulating certain criteria for specified requiring the State Commissioner of Health to consider certain input. Effective date.	rules;
together with Engrossed House Amendments thereto, beg leave to report that we have had the same under consideration and herewith return the same with the following recommendations:	
That the House recede from all Amendments.	
2. That the attached Conference Committee Substitute (Request #3851) be adopted.	
Respectfully submitted,	
Muchal Bergstrom SENATE CONFEREES: Stanley Stanley)
Rosino Young Haste	
HOUSE CONFEREES:	
General Conference Committee Health Services and Long-Term Care	
Senate ActionDateDateDate	

HOUSE CONFEREES

Caldwell, Chad

Color Color Hefner, Ellyn

McEntire, Marcus

Randleman, Randy

Roe, Cynthia

Stark, Marilyn

Waldron, John

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 1380

By: Bergstrom of the Senate

and

Lepak of the House

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CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to long-term care; amending 63 O.S. 2021, Section 330.51, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 271, O.S.L. 2023, and as renumbered by Section 12, Chapter 271, O.S.L. 2023 (63 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 1-1949.2), which relates to definitions used in the Long-Term Care Administrator Licensing Act; modifying and adding definitions; amending 63 O.S. 2021, Section 330.53, as amended by Section 5, Chapter 271, O.S.L. 2023, and as renumbered by Section 13, Chapter 271, O.S.L. 2023 (63 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 1-1949.3), which relates to qualifications for license or certification; adding licensure tier; prohibiting specified internship requirement; providing certain exception; allowing certain entities to request examination results from the State Department of Health for specified purpose; amending 63 O.S. 2021, Section 330.58, as amended by Section 6, Chapter 271, O.S.L. 2023, and as renumbered by Section 14, Chapter 271, O.S.L. 2023 (63 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 1-1949.4), which relates to duties of the Department; modifying certain duty; making language gender neutral; updating statutory references and language; authorizing certain nurses to prepare medications for administration under specified conditions; providing certain construction; providing for codification; and declaring an emergency.

Req. No. 3851

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

3 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 330.51, as
4 amended by Section 3, Chapter 271, O.S.L. 2023, and as renumbered by
5 Section 12, Chapter 271, O.S.L. 2023 (63 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 1-

1949.2), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-1949.2. For the purposes of this act the Long-Term

Care Administrator Licensing Act:

1. "Long-term care administrator" means a person licensed or certified as a Tier 1 long-term care administrator or, Tier 2, or Tier 3 long-term care administrator under this act the Long-Term Care Administrator Licensing Act. A long-term care administrator must devote at least one-half (1/2) of such person's working time to on-the-job supervision of a long-term care facility; provided, that this requirement shall not apply to an administrator of an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities with sixteen or fewer beds (ICF/IID-16), in which case the person licensed by the state may be in charge of more than one ICF/IID-16, if such facilities are located within a circle that has a radius not more than fifteen (15) miles, and the total number of facilities and beds does not exceed six facilities and sixty-four beds. The facilities may be free-standing in a community or may be on campus with a parent institution. The ICF/IID-16 may be

independently owned and operated or may be part of a larger
institutional ownership and operation;

- 2. "Tier 1 long-term care administrator" means a person licensed by this state to perform the duties of an administrator serving in a skilled nursing or nursing facility or an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities with seventeen or greater beds (ICF/IID);
- 3. "Tier 2 long-term care administrator" means a person licensed or certified by this state to perform the duties of an administrator serving in an assisted living facility center, residential care facility, adult day care center, or intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities with sixteen or fewer beds (ICF/IID-16), or seeking a combined assisted living center and residential care home license;
- 4. "Tier 3 long-term care administrator" means a person licensed or certified by this state to perform the duties of an administrator serving in a residential care home or adult day care center; and
- 5. "Nursing home", "rest home" and "specialized home" facility" shall have the same meaning as the term "nursing facility" as such term is defined in the Nursing Home Care Act; "assisted living center" and "continuum of care facility" shall have the same meaning as such terms are defined in the Continuum of Care and Assisted Living Act; "home" and "residential care home" shall have the same

- 1 | meaning as the terms are used such term is defined in the
- 2 Residential Care Act; and "adult day care center" and "center" shall
- 3 | have the same meaning as such terms are used term is defined in the
- 4 | Adult Day Care Act.
- 5 | SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 330.53, as
- 6 amended by Section 5, Chapter 271, O.S.L. 2023, and as renumbered by
- 7 | Section 13, Chapter 271, O.S.L. 2023 (63 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 1-
- 8 | 1949.3), is amended to read as follows:
- 9 Section 1-1949.3. A. The State Department of Health shall have
- 10 authority to issue licenses or certifications to qualified persons
- 11 as long-term care administrators in accordance with qualification
- 12 | criteria established by the State Commissioner of Health.
- B. No license or certification shall be issued to a person as a
- 14 | long-term care administrator unless:
- 15 | 1. The person shall have submitted evidence satisfactory to the
- 16 Department that the person is:

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- a. not less than twenty-one (21) years of age, and
- b. of reputable and responsible character; and
- 19 2. The person shall have submitted evidence satisfactory to the
- 20 Department of the person's ability to be licensed or certified to
- 21 | serve as a Tier 1 long-term care administrator or, Tier 2, or Tier 3
- 22 | long-term care administrator.
- 23 C. The Commissioner shall have the authority to determine the
- 24 qualifications, skill, and fitness of any person to serve as a long-

term care administrator under the applicable provisions of the 1 Nursing Home Care Act, the Continuum of Care and Assisted Living Act, the Residential Care Act, and the Adult Day Care Act. The Commissioner shall promulgate rules to determine the qualifications for licensure or certification as a Tier 1 or, Tier 2, or Tier 3 long-term care administrator. Such rules may, at the discretion of the Commissioner, include a requirement for licensure instead of certification for either or both any of the tiers of long-term care administrators.

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- All persons licensed or certified or lawfully serving as an administrator in their defined facility type respective tier shall be permitted to continue to serve in their current capacity under their current terms of authorization. The Commissioner may promulgate rules to address future certification and licensure requirements for both any of the tiers of long-term care administrators without effect on the licensure or certification status of those currently certified or licensed. Until such rules are promulgated, current licensure and certification processes and standards shall remain in place.
- To be eligible for licensure or certification as either a Tier 1 or, Tier 2, or Tier 3 long-term care administrator, the applicant shall have successfully completed a training and education program approved by the Commissioner.

3. The Commissioner shall not include a requirement for a four-year degree or an administrator-in-training (AIT) internship in any licensing or certification requirements for Tier 2 or Tier 3 long-term care administrators, except that the Commissioner may require an AIT internship for Tier 2 administrators of an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities with sixteen or fewer beds (ICF/IID-16).

- 4. In addition to the requirement provided by paragraph 2 of this subsection, to be eligible for licensure or certification as a Tier 1 long-term care administrator, the applicant shall:
 - a. hold a baccalaureate degree from an institution of higher education, or
 - b. hold an associate degree in a health- or businessrelated field or other relevant field as determined by
 the Commissioner and have not less than five (5) years
 of experience in upper-level management of a long-term
 care facility as determined by the Commissioner.
- E. Eligible applicants may sit for the state standards examination at a testing facility using procedures approved by the National Association of Long Term Care Administrator Boards (NAB) including, but not limited to, the use of electronic or online methods for examination.
 - F. 1. The State Department of Health shall either:

 1. Approve

a. approve one or more organizations or agencies to provide training and education programs for long-term care administrators. Each such organization or agency shall meet such requirements as may be prescribed by rules promulgated by the State Commissioner of Health+.

2. Offer

- <u>b.</u> <u>offer</u> a training and education program for long-term care administrators conducted by the Department+, or
 3. Both
- <u>c.</u> <u>both</u> approve one or more organizations to provide training and education programs for long-term care administrators as described in paragraph 1 <u>subparagraph a</u> of this subsection <u>paragraph</u> and offer a training and education program for long-term care administrators conducted by the Department as described in paragraph 2 <u>subparagraph b</u> of this subsection paragraph.
- 2. Approved organizations or agencies may request examination results from the Department for state and NAB examinations for the purpose of monitoring and evaluating the organization's or agency's training and education program.
- G. 1. Each person licensed or certified as a long-term care administrator under the provisions of $\frac{1}{2}$ the Long-Term Care

Administrator Licensing Act shall pay an annual license or certification fee which shall be deposited in the Long-Term Care Administrator Revolving Fund described in Section 7 of this act Section 1-1949.5 of this title. Such fee shall be determined by the Commissioner. Each such license or certification shall expire on the thirty-first day of December following its issuance, and shall be renewable for a calendar year, upon meeting the renewal requirements and upon payment of the annual licensure or certification fee.

2. In addition to licensure and certification fees, the Commissioner may impose fees on agencies and organizations that provide training and education programs.

- 3. All revenues collected as a result of fees authorized in this section and imposed by the Commissioner shall be deposited into the Long-Term Care Administrator Revolving Fund described in Section 7 of this act Section 1-1949.5 of this title.
- H. The State Commissioner of Health shall promulgate rules to provide for licensure or certification by endorsement of long-term care administrators who are licensed or certified in other states that have requirements for licensure or certification of long-term care administrators that are substantially equivalent to or greater than the requirements of this state, as determined by the Commissioner.

I. It shall be unlawful for any person to act or serve in the capacity of a long-term care administrator unless the person is the holder of a license or certificate as a long-term care administrator, issued in accordance with the provisions of this act the Long-Term Care Administrator Licensing Act. A person found guilty of a violation of this subsection shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 330.58, as amended by Section 6, Chapter 271, O.S.L. 2023, and as renumbered by Section 14, Chapter 271, O.S.L. 2023 (63 O.S. Supp. 2023, Section 1-1949.4), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-1949.4. The State Department of Health or, as appropriate, the State Commissioner of Health shall:

- 1. Develop and apply standards for approval of training and education programs for long-term care administrators that meet the accreditation which may include standards of the National Association of Long Term Care Administrator Boards and approve or offer training and education programs, or both, as described in subsection F of Section 330.53 1-1949.3 of this title;
- 2. Develop, impose, and enforce standards which must be met by individuals in order to receive a license or certification as a long-term care administrator, which standards shall be designed to ensure that long-term care administrators will be individuals who are of good character and are otherwise suitable, and who, by

training or experience in the field of institutional administration, are qualified to serve as long-term care administrators;

3. Develop and apply appropriate techniques, including examinations and investigations, for determining whether an individual meets such standards;

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- 4. Issue licenses or certifications to individuals determined, after the application of such techniques, to meet such standards. The Department may deny an initial application, deny a renewal application, and revoke or suspend licenses or certifications previously issued by the Department in any case where the individual holding any such license or certification is determined substantially to have failed to conform to the requirements of such standards. The Department may also warn, censure, impose administrative fines or use other remedies that may be considered to be less than revocation and suspension. Administrative fines imposed pursuant to this section shall not exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per violation. The Department shall consider the scope, severity and repetition of the violation and any additional factors deemed appropriate by the Department when issuing a fine. The Department may utilize one or more administrative law judges to conduct administrative proceedings;
- 5. Establish and carry out procedures designed to ensure that individuals licensed or certified as long-term care administrators

will, during any period that they serve as such, comply with the requirements of such standards;

- 6. Receive, investigate, and take appropriate action with respect to any charge or complaint filed with the Department to the effect that any individual licensed as a long-term care administrator has failed to comply with the requirements of such standards. The long-term care ombudsman program of the Aging Services Division of the Department of Human Services shall be notified of all complaint investigations of the Department so that they may be present at any such complaint investigation for the purpose of representing long-term care facility consumers;
- 7. Receive and take appropriate action on any complaint or referral received by the Department from the Department of Human Services or any other regulatory agency. A complaint shall not be published on the website of the Department unless there is a finding by the Department that the complaint has merit. The Commissioner shall promulgate rules that include, but are not limited to, provisions for:
 - a. establishing a complaint review process,
 - b. creating a formal complaint file,
 - c. establishing a protocol for investigation of complaints, and

d. establishing an independent informal dispute resolution process in accordance with Section 9 of this act Section 1-1949.7 of this title;

- 8. Enforce the provisions of this act the Long-Term Care

 Administrator Licensing Act against all persons who are in violation thereof including, but not limited to, individuals who are practicing or attempting to practice as long-term care administrators without proper authorization from the Department;
- 9. Conduct a continuing study and investigation of long-term care facilities and administrators of long-term care facilities within the state with a view toward the improvement of the standards imposed for the licensing or certifying of such administrators and of procedures and methods for the enforcement of such standards with respect to administrators of long-term care facilities who have been licensed or certified;
- 10. Cooperate with and provide assistance when necessary to state regulatory agencies in investigations of complaints;
- 11. Develop a code of ethics for long-term care administrators which includes, but is not limited to, a statement that administrators have a fiduciary duty to the facility and cannot serve as guardian of the person or of the estate, or hold a durable power of attorney or power of attorney for any resident of a facility of which they are an administrator;

12. Report a final adverse action against a long-term care administrator to the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank pursuant to federal regulatory requirements;

- 13. Refer completed investigations to the proper law enforcement authorities for prosecution of criminal activities;
- 14. Impose administrative fines, in an amount to be determined by the Commissioner, against persons who do not comply with the provisions of this act the Long-Term Care Administrator Licensing

 Act or the rules adopted by the Commissioner. Administrative fines imposed pursuant to this section shall not exceed One Thousand

 Dollars (\$1,000.00) per violation. The Department shall consider the scope, severity and repetition of the violation and any additional factors deemed appropriate by the Department when issuing a fine;
- 15. Assess the costs of the hearing process, including attorney 16 fees;
 - 16. Grant short-term provisional licenses to individuals who do not meet all of the licensing requirements, provided the individual obtains the services of a currently licensed administrator to act as a consultant and meets any additional criteria for a provisional license established by the Commissioner;
 - 17. Promulgate rules governing the employment of assistant administrators including, but not limited to, minimum qualifications; and

18. Employ such staff as may be necessary to carry out the duties of this act the Long-Term Care Administrator Licensing Act.

SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-1950A of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

- A. A Registered Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse performing duties in a nursing facility or specialized facility may, within the scope of his or her licensure as established by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing and subject to rules promulgated by the State Commissioner of Health, prepare medications for administration to residents, including the reconstitution and dilution of such medications.
- B. This section shall not be construed to limit or otherwise affect the ability of a Registered Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse to prepare medications in facilities or settings other than a nursing facility or specialized facility.

SECTION 5. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

59-2-3851 DC 5/28/2024 11:07:51 AM