

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	9 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Boone, Cowan, Dembrow, Freeman, Huffman, Maurer, Olson, VanOrman, Tomei
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Keely West, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Restricts requirements of Senate confirmation for the Long Term Care Advisory Committee to members appointed by the Governor. Prohibits members of the Committee from having financial or fiduciary interest in long term care facilities or service providers, or involvement in the licensing or certification of facilities or providers.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Aligns statute with similar statutes of other boards
- Aligns state governing statute with federal governing statute

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendments.

BACKGROUND: The Long Term Care Advisory Committee monitors the Long Term Care Ombudsman program. The committee nominates three persons for the position of Ombudsman, from which the Governor makes an appointment. The Ombudsman investigates and resolves complaints concerning residents of long term care facilities. Currently the Senate confirms all members of the committee, including those members appointed by the Senate and House. Senate Bill 378 eliminates the requirement that the Senate confirm members of the Committee appointed by legislators.

The Office of the Ombudsman is governed by federal and state statutes. The federal Older Americans Act requires the state agency ensure that "no individual, or member of the immediate family of an individual, involved in the designation of the Ombudsman, (whether by appointment or otherwise)...is subject to a conflict of interest." SB 378 brings the state statute into alignment with this federal statute.