

SB 774

Relating to the Home Care Commission

SB 774 directs the Home Care Commission to adopt a statewide plan to facilitate increasing participation in the home care registry, including the continuing creation of a career ladder to help home care workers become more skilled and gain certifications, conducting orientation sessions for home care workers, and developing an outreach and marketing strategy. The bill encourages implementation of a single online application for all home care workers to apply to the registry, and assignment of a universal provider number to each home care worker.

The bill requires the Department of Human Services to report, beginning in 2015, to an interim legislative committee by December 1st each year on the status of implementing an online application and assigning unique provider numbers to home care workers. An existing Home Care Commission subcommittee is charged with investigating the feasibility and benefits of certifying home care workers, ways to remove barriers to entry in the workforce, and ways to increase the number of home care workers on the registry.

The amendment represents the Subcommittee's recommendation of a \$1 million General Fund appropriation of to the Department of Human Services to carry out the provisions of the bill. DHS expects the components of the statewide plan to include workforce development contracts with Workforce Investment Boards and partnerships with community colleges, along with marketing and communications efforts.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends SB 774 be amended by the -A4 amendment and be reported out do pass as amended.