

HB 2394 -4 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Human Services

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Meeting Dates: 2/8, 4/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Mandates long term care facilities, residential facilities, adult foster homes, and facilities with a memory care endorsement to have an isolation prevention plan available upon request that has been approved by the Department of Human Services (DHS). Defines the scope and characteristics of such plans. Requires plan submission to DHS within 30 days of effective date. Authorizes DHS to provide financial assistance. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Funds and assistance for technological resources for facilities
- Innovative solutions for remote communication
- Timeline for isolation plans to be drafted and a report sent to DHS
- Adjustment of requirements for facilities depending on facilities size and number of residents
- Minimum number amounts of visits per patient
- Longevity of availability of resources, adaptability to future conditions and technology development

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-4 Mandates long term care facilities, residential facilities, adult foster homes, and facilities with a memory care endorsement to have an isolation plan as a part of the facility's emergency response plans. Defines the scope and characteristics of such plans. Prohibits facilities to require residents to engage in virtual contact or communication. Requires facilities to provide assistive and supportive technology as necessary to facilitate contact for residents. Requires plan submission to DHS no later than the earlier of six months after the effective date of this 2021 Act or the time when the facility or home updates its emergency response plan

BACKGROUND:

During a state of emergency or a public health emergency, like disease outbreaks or epidemics, that may require periods of isolation, populations that may already feel isolated may benefit from a more thoughtful approach, such as residents of congregate living facilities.

House Bill 2394 directs certain congregate living facilities to establish isolation prevention plans in cases of public emergency within 30 days of passage.