

**HB 2108 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Human Services, Mental Health and Recovery**

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**Prepared By:** C. Ross, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 4/20, 4/27

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Clarifies Department of Human Services' (DHS') discretion to authorize independent residence facilities. Allows rather than requires independent residence facilities to be classified as child-caring agencies if applicable criteria are met.

*House floor vote: unanimous*

*House committee vote: unanimous*

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Independent residence facilities provide independent housing arrangements for residents, with available counseling services and minimal supervision. Currently, all independent residence facilities with six or more residents must be licensed by the Department of Human Services (DHS) as child-caring agencies.

House Bill 2108 removes the requirement that DHS license independent residence facilities with six or more occupants as child-caring agencies, and makes it discretionary instead, when applicable criteria are met.