

HB 2600

Relating to disease outbreaks in congregate care facilities

HB 2600 requires long term care facilities, conversion facilities, and residential care facilities providing care to six or more residents to adopt protocols and procedures for preventing and reporting disease outbreaks. These facilities must designate a qualified person with specialized training to be responsible for the protocols, and to serve as a contact for the Department of Human Services and the Oregon Health Authority regarding outbreaks. Employees of these facilities must receive training in recognizing disease outbreaks and infection control. The bill requires the Department of Human Services prescribe requirements for training and to conduct annual onsite inspections of facilities' kitchens and food preparation areas. The bill stipulates that the inspections must be conducted by an individual who has training and expertise in food sanitation.

DHS estimates there are approximately 275 facilities that will be subject to annual onsite inspections. To conduct these inspections, DHS anticipates establishing three permanent full-time Client Care Surveyor positions. The bill authorizes DHS to charge the facility a fee of up to \$200 for inspection. Fees collected are to be deposited into the Quality Care Fund and continuously appropriated to DHS to conduct the required inspection. While the fees are not anticipated to fully cover the cost of inspections, other Quality Care Fund revenues are projected to be available to cover the remainder.

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends HB 2600 be amended by the -A8 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.