

SB 267 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Human Services, Mental Health and Recovery

Prepared By: C. Ross, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 4/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Department of Human Services (DHS) to report to the legislature by September 15, 2021, on program adjustments necessitated by budgetary changes. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

[-1 amendment dated 4/12/21] Replaces the measure. Adds a representative from the relevant licensing authority to the list of entities entitled to receive copies of initial status reports prepared by local area agencies or DHS upon receipt of notice from law enforcement that there is reasonable cause to believe abuse has occurred. Requires DHS to investigate alleged licensing violations and inadequate staffing complaints without undue delay. Adds to required content of such investigations and subsequent report, an assessment of facility staffing, if the complaint contains certain allegations. Requires DHS to prioritize residents in its enforcement process. Replaces DHS' current discretion to impose condition on facility license, with requirement to do so upon finding of immediate jeopardy. Adds to DHS' compliance assessment framework for residential care facilities, measuring the facility's ability to consistently meet resident needs and the impact of noncompliance on residents. Requires DHS to publish notice online when a facility is subject to enhanced oversight. Requires DHS to publish and distribute framework, make enhanced oversight operational, and report to the legislature by April 1, 2022. Sets effective date 91st day after *sine die* adjournment.

BACKGROUND: