

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2011

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HOUSE BILL 474  
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/26/11

Short Title: Protect Adult Care Home Residents.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 28, 2011

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PROTECT ADULT CARE HOME RESIDENTS BY INCREASING MINIMUM  
3 CONTINUING EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND COMPETENCY EVALUATION  
4 REQUIREMENTS FOR ADULT CARE HOME MEDICATION AIDES,  
5 STRENGTHENING ADULT CARE HOME INFECTION CONTROL REQUIREMENTS,  
6 AND REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,  
7 DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE REGULATION, TO ANNUALLY INSPECT  
8 ADULT CARE HOMES FOR COMPLIANCE WITH SAFE INFECTION CONTROL  
9 STANDARDS.

10 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

11 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 131D-4.5(1) reads as rewritten:

12 "(1) Establishing minimum medication administration standards for adult care  
13 homes. The rules shall include the minimum staffing and training  
14 requirements for medication aides and standards for professional supervision  
15 of adult care homes' medication controls. The requirements shall (i) include  
16 compliance with G.S. 131D-4.5B and (ii) be designed to reduce the  
17 medication error rate in adult care homes to an acceptable level. The  
18 requirements shall include, but need not be limited to, all of the following:  
19 a. Training for medication aides, including periodic refresher training.  
20 b. Standards for management of complex medication regimens.  
21 c. Oversight by licensed professionals.  
22 d. Measures to ensure proper storage of medication."

23 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 131D-4.5(3) reads as rewritten:

24 "(3) Establishing minimum training and education qualifications for supervisors  
25 in adult care homes and specifying the safety responsibilities of supervisors.  
26 The minimum training qualifications shall include compliance with  
27 G.S. 131D-4.5C."

28 **SECTION 3.** Article 1 of Chapter 131D of the General Statutes is amended by  
29 adding two new sections to read:

30 "**§ 131D-4.4A. Adult care home infection prevention requirements.**

31 (a) As used in this section, "adult care home staff" means any employee of an adult care  
32 home involved in direct resident care.

33 (b) In order to prevent transmission of HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and other  
34 bloodborne pathogens, each adult care home shall do all of the following, beginning January 1,  
35 2012:



- 1           (1) Implement a written infection control policy consistent with the federal  
2 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines on infection control  
3 that addresses at least all of the following:  
4           a. Sterilization, disinfection, and disposal of all equipment used to  
5 puncture skin, mucous membranes, or other tissues, including a  
6 schedule for maintenance and microbiologic monitoring of the  
7 equipment.  
8           b. Documentation of infection control maintenance and monitoring  
9 activities.  
10          c. Sanitation of rooms and equipment, including cleaning procedures,  
11 agents, and schedules.  
12          d. Accessibility of infection control devices and supplies.  
13          e. Blood and bodily fluid precautions.  
14          f. Procedures to be followed when adult care home staff is exposed to  
15 blood or other body fluids of another person in a manner that poses a  
16 significant risk of transmission of HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, or  
17 other bloodborne pathogens.  
18          g. Procedures to prohibit adult care home staff with exudative lesions or  
19 weeping dermatitis from engaging in direct resident care that  
20 involves the potential for contact between the resident, equipment, or  
21 devices and the lesion or dermatitis until the condition resolves.  
22          (2) Require and monitor compliance with the facility's infection control policy.  
23          (3) Update the infection control policy as necessary to prevent the transmission  
24 of HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and other bloodborne pathogens.  
25          (4) Designate one on-site staff member for each noncontiguous facility who is  
26 knowledgeable about the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
27 guidelines on infection control to direct the facility's infection control  
28 activities and ensure that all adult care staff is trained in the facility's  
29 infection control policy. Beginning October 1, 2013, any nonsupervisory  
30 staff member designated to direct the facility's infection control activities  
31 shall complete the infection control course developed by the Department  
32 pursuant to G.S. 131D-4.5C.

33 **"§ 131D-4.4B. Guidelines for reporting suspected communicable disease outbreaks.**

34 The Department shall develop guidelines prescribing the manner in which an adult care  
35 home is to report a suspected communicable disease outbreak within the facility to the local  
36 health department."

37 **SECTION 4.** G.S. 131D-2.11(a) reads as rewritten:

38 "(a) State Inspection and Monitoring. – The Department shall ensure that adult care  
39 homes required to be licensed by this Article are monitored for licensure compliance on a  
40 regular basis. All facilities licensed under this Article and adult care units in nursing homes are  
41 subject to inspections at all times by the Secretary. The Division of Health Service Regulation  
42 shall inspect all adult care homes and adult care units in nursing homes on an annual basis.  
43 Beginning July 1, 2012, the Division of Health Service Regulation shall include as part of its  
44 inspection of all adult care homes a review of the facility's compliance with G.S. 131D-4.4A(b)  
45 and safe practices for injections and any other procedures during which bleeding typically  
46 occurs. In addition, the Department shall ensure that adult care homes are inspected every two  
47 years to determine compliance with physical plant and life-safety requirements."

48 **SECTION 5.** Article 1 of Chapter 131D of the General Statutes is amended by  
49 adding two new sections to read:

50 **"§ 131D-4.5B. Adult care home medication aides; training and competency evaluation**  
51 **requirements.**

1       (a) By January 1, 2012, the Division of Health Service Regulation shall develop a  
2 mandatory, annual in-service training program for adult care home medication aides on  
3 infection control, safe practices for injections and any other procedures during which bleeding  
4 typically occurs, and glucose monitoring. Each medication aide who successfully completes the  
5 in-service training program shall receive partial credit, in an amount determined by the  
6 Department, toward the continuing education requirements for adult care home medication  
7 aides established by the Commission pursuant to G.S. 131D-4.5.

8       (b) Beginning October 1, 2013, an adult care home is prohibited from hiring a  
9 medication aide to perform any unsupervised medication aide duties unless that individual has  
10 previously worked as a medication aide in an adult care home or successfully completed all of  
11 the following:

12           (1) A 5-hour training program developed by the Department that includes  
13 training and instruction in all of the following:

14               a. The key principles of medication administration.

15               b. The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines on  
16 infection control and, if applicable, safe injection practices and  
17 glucose monitoring.

18           (2) A clinical skills evaluation consistent with 10A NCAC 13F .0503.

19           (3) Within 60 days from the date of hire, the individual must have completed the  
20 following:

21               a. An additional 10-hour training program developed by the  
22 Department that includes training and instruction in all of the  
23 following:

24                   1. The key principles of medication administration.

25                   2. The federal Centers of Disease Control and Prevention  
26 guidelines on infection control and, if applicable, safe  
27 injection practices and glucose monitoring.

28               b. An examination developed and administered by the Division of  
29 Health Service Regulation in accordance with subsection (c) of this  
30 section.

31       (c) By October 1, 2012, the Division of Health Service Regulation shall develop and  
32 administer an examination for individuals seeking employment as a medication aide in an adult  
33 care home.

34 **"§ 131D-4.5C. Adult care home supervisors; infection control training requirements.**

35       By December 1, 2011, the Department shall develop a mandatory, annual course for adult  
36 care home supervisors on federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines on  
37 infection control. Each supervisor that successfully completes the mandatory infection control  
38 course shall receive credit, in an amount determined by the Department, toward the continuing  
39 education requirements for adult care home supervisors established by the Commission  
40 pursuant to G.S. 131D-4.5."

41       **SECTION 6.** This act is effective when it becomes law.