

## HB 966 -- Dispute Resolution Process in Long-Term Care Facilities

Sponsor: Schoeller

This bill requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to establish and utilize an informal dispute resolution process when evaluating the performance of inspectors enforcing regulation standards upon licensed long-term care facilities in the state. A facility must have an opportunity to contest deficiencies received during a department inspection or a complaint investigation by requesting an informed dispute resolution conference with a representative peer review committee which must be held within 30 days of the request. Within 20 business days of the conference, the committee must submit a written determination to the department to affirm, modify, or dismiss the deficiencies in the dispute. The department must make a final report on the deficiencies in dispute within 10 business days of receiving the committee determination including, if applicable, the specific reasons for not adopting the determination of the committee. If a facility successfully demonstrates during a conference that the deficiency should not be cited, the deficiency will be removed and any sanction will be rescinded.