

HCS SB 363 -- RELATING TO LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES

SPONSOR: Chappelle-Nadal (Curtis)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 12 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 13 to 0.

This bill requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to strongly encourage all long-term care facilities licensed in this state to institute policies that will facilitate familial involvement in the well-being and support of residents of long-term care facilities.

This bill is similar to SB 670 (2016).

This bill amends provisions relating to reporting of suspected abuse and neglect of a resident of a long-term care facility who is 60 years of age or older or an eligible adult. Currently, a report is required to be made to the Department of Health and Senior Services in the event of suspected abuse or neglect. Under this bill, in the event of suspected sexual assault of the resident, specified mandated reporters shall also report to local law enforcement under the procedures of the Federal Elder Justice Act of 2009.

This bill is similar to SB 234 (2015).

No later than October 1 of each year, this bill requires each assisted living and residential care facility to provide residents with education information on the influenza virus. The bill specifies what must be included in the information and nothing in the bill must be construed to require any assisted living or residential care facility to provide or pay for any vaccination against influenza.

This bill is similar to SB 334 (2017).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that nursing home staff should encourage more family involvement and a sense of community. The families of nursing home residents should be encouraged to communicate. The provisions of the underlying bill are not mandatory because there is a high percentage of nursing home residents without any family.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Chappelle-Nadal; Leading Age Missouri; and the Missouri Health Care Association.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.