

"AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE LONG TERM CARE TRAINING PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. THE ACT. This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Long Term Care Aide Training Act".

SECTION 2. AUTHORITY. No later than January 1, 1988 the Office of Long Term Care of the Division of Economic and Medical Services of the Department of Human Services shall establish a training program to be completed by all aides in long term care facilities who provide personal care to residents.

SECTION 3. IMPLEMENTATION. The Office of Long Term Care shall promulgate regulations necessary to implement an aide training program for all long term care facilities in this State, to prescribe in-service training programs and to enforce compliance with such programs.

SECTION 4. Students who have satisfactorily completed a nursing assistant/aide training program in either a public or private proprietary school licensed by the State of Arkansas are excluded from the provisions of this Act since they will already have attained the skills needed to serve as aides in long term care facilities.

SECTION 5. DEFINITION. "Long Term Care Facility" means a nursing home, residential care facility, an adult day care facility, or any other facility which provides long term medical or personal care.

SECTION 6. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 7. SEVERABILITY. The various provisions and parts of this Act are hereby declared severable and if any section or part of a section, provision or part of a provision, herein is declared unconstitutional, inappropriate or invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not invalidate or affect the remainder of this Act.

SECTION 8. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the General Assembly that the adequacy of personal care for Arkansas residents in long term care facilities could be assured through a formalized training program; that the training program should be implemented as soon as possible to preserve the public peace, health and safety. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

APPROVED: April 7, 1987

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