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HOUSE FISCAL AGENCY

124 N. Capitol Avenue
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HB4451 AS PASSED BY THE HOUSE

Sponsor
Committee

Rep. Patricia Lockwood
HEALTH POLICY

Analyst(s) Schneider, Bob

Completed 4/2/01

State Fiscal Impact

Cost	Increase
Revenues	None

Local Fiscal Impact

Cost	None
Revenues	None

The bill would establish a nine-member Nursing Home Quality of Life Review Commission within the Department of Community Health. The bill's provisions include the following:

- 1) Members of the commission would serve without compensation but could be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.
- 2) The commission would review all nursing home survey reports utilizing the guidelines established by the federal Health Care Financing Authority (HCFA). The Department of Consumer and Industry Services (DCIS) is responsible for conducting these surveys. The DCIS has indicated that roughly 2,500 complaint investigation reports and 700 annual survey reports are generated each year (including reports on follow-up visits). Additional reports are generated directly by HCFA.
- 3) The commission would establish a satisfaction survey regarding staff performance and nursing home conditions to be administered within homes not participating in industry-sponsored surveys that are substantially similar.
- 4) The commission would conduct quarterly meetings with the DCIS survey teams
- 5) An initial report on the survey process, including a financial audit and funding recommendations, would be developed within one year of the commission's initial appointment. This report would be followed by annual reports on the commission's activities, findings, and recommendations.
- 6) The Department of Community Health is required to provide office space, supplies, clerical assistance, administrative assistance, and other staff to the commission as necessary.

These provisions would increase costs on the Department of Community Health by an indeterminate amount.