



General Assembly

**Amendment**

February Session, 2008

LCO No. 5707

\*SB0055905707HDO\*

Offered by:

REP. VILLANO, 91<sup>st</sup> Dist.  
SEN. HARRIS, 5<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
REP. ABERCROMBIE, 83<sup>rd</sup> Dist.  
REP. RITTER, 38<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. HARP, 10<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
REP. FAWCETT, 133<sup>rd</sup> Dist.  
REP. WALKER, 93<sup>rd</sup> Dist.  
REP. DILLON, 92<sup>nd</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 559

File No. 599

Cal. No. 455

**"AN ACT CONCERNING A PILOT PROGRAM FOR SMALL HOUSE NURSING HOMES."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) As used in this section,  
4 "small house nursing home" means an alternative nursing home  
5 facility that (1) consists of one or more units that are designed and  
6 modeled as a private home, (2) houses no more than ten individuals in  
7 each unit, (3) includes private rooms and bathrooms, (4) provides for  
8 an increased role for support staff in the care of residents, (5)  
9 incorporates a philosophy of individualized care, and (6) is licensed as  
10 a nursing home under chapter 368v of the general statutes.

11 (b) The Commissioner of Social Services shall establish, within  
12 available appropriations, a pilot program to support the development

13 of up to ten small house nursing homes in the state in order to improve  
14 the quality of life for nursing home residents and to support a goal of  
15 providing nursing home care in a more home-like and less institution-  
16 like setting.

17 (c) Any existing chronic and convalescent nursing home or rest  
18 home with nursing supervision may apply to the commissioner for  
19 approval of a proposal to develop a small house nursing home and to  
20 relocate Medicaid certified beds from its facility to such small house  
21 nursing home. The commissioner shall require each small house  
22 nursing home under the pilot program to seek certification to  
23 participate in the Title XVIII and Title XIX programs and may establish  
24 additional requirements for such small house nursing homes. Not later  
25 than October 1, 2008, the commissioner shall develop guidelines  
26 relating to the design specifications and requirements for small house  
27 nursing homes for purposes of the pilot program, and shall submit a  
28 copy of the guidelines to the joint standing committee of the General  
29 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human services.  
30 Not later than thirty days after receipt of such guidelines, said joint  
31 standing committee may advise the commissioner of its approval,  
32 denial or modifications, if any, of such guidelines. If said joint standing  
33 committee does not act during such thirty-day period, such guidelines  
34 shall be deemed approved. If approved, the commissioner shall make  
35 such guidelines available to applicants. Each chronic and convalescent  
36 nursing home or rest home with nursing supervision submitting a  
37 proposal shall provide: (1) A description of the proposed project; (2)  
38 information concerning the financial and technical capacity of the  
39 applicant to undertake the proposed project; (3) a project budget; (4)  
40 information that the relocation of beds shall result in a reduction in the  
41 number of nursing facility beds in the state; and (5) any additional  
42 information the commissioner deems necessary.

43 (d) The commissioner, in consultation with the Long-Term Care  
44 Planning Committee, established pursuant to section 17b-337 of the  
45 2008 supplement to the general statutes, shall evaluate proposals  
46 received pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and approve up to

47 ten proposals. The commissioner shall give preference to proposals  
48 that include the use of fuel cells or other energy technologies that  
49 promote energy efficiency in such small house nursing home. The  
50 commissioner shall reserve two out of the ten approvals for proposals  
51 to develop a small house nursing home in a distressed municipality, as  
52 defined in section 32-9p of the general statutes, with a population  
53 greater than one hundred thousand persons.

54 (e) A small house nursing home developed under this section shall  
55 comply with the provisions of sections 17b-352 to 17b-354, inclusive, of  
56 the general statutes.

57 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 17b-354 of the 2008 supplement to  
58 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
59 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

60 (a) Except for applications deemed complete as of August 9, 1991,  
61 the Department of Social Services shall not accept or approve any  
62 requests for additional nursing home beds or modify the capital cost of  
63 any prior approval for the period from September 4, 1991, through  
64 June 30, 2012, except (1) beds restricted to use by patients with  
65 acquired immune deficiency syndrome or traumatic brain injury; (2)  
66 beds associated with a continuing care facility which guarantees life  
67 care for its residents; (3) Medicaid certified beds to be relocated from  
68 one licensed nursing facility to another licensed nursing facility or to a  
69 small house nursing home, as defined in section 1 of this act, provided  
70 (A) the availability of beds in an area of need will not be adversely  
71 affected; (B) no such relocation shall result in an increase in state  
72 expenditures; and (C) the relocation results in a reduction in the  
73 number of nursing facility beds in the state; (4) a request for no more  
74 than twenty beds submitted by a licensed nursing facility that  
75 participates in neither the Medicaid program nor the Medicare  
76 program, admits residents and provides health care to such residents  
77 without regard to their income or assets and demonstrates its financial  
78 ability to provide lifetime nursing home services to such residents  
79 without participating in the Medicaid program to the satisfaction of

80 the department, provided the department does not accept or approve  
 81 more than one request pursuant to this subdivision; [and] (5) a request  
 82 for no more than twenty beds associated with a free standing facility  
 83 dedicated to providing hospice care services for terminally ill persons  
 84 operated by an organization previously authorized by the Department  
 85 of Public Health to provide hospice services in accordance with section  
 86 19a-122b of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes; and (6) new or  
 87 existing Medicaid certified beds to be relocated from a licensed  
 88 nursing facility in a municipality with a 2004 estimated population of  
 89 one hundred twenty-five thousand to a location within the same  
 90 municipality provided such Medicaid certified beds do not exceed  
 91 sixty beds. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, any  
 92 provision of the general statutes or any decision of the Office of Health  
 93 Care Access, (i) the date by which construction shall begin for each  
 94 nursing home certificate of need in effect August 1, 1991, shall be  
 95 December 31, 1992, (ii) the date by which a nursing home shall be  
 96 licensed under each such certificate of need shall be October 1, 1995,  
 97 and (iii) the imposition of such dates shall not require action by the  
 98 Commissioner of Social Services. Except as provided in subsection (c)  
 99 of this section, a nursing home certificate of need in effect August 1,  
 100 1991, shall expire if construction has not begun or licensure has not  
 101 been obtained in compliance with the dates set forth in subparagraphs  
 102 (i) and (ii) of this subsection."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2008	New section
Sec. 2	July 1, 2008	17b-354(a)