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## OLR Bill Analysis

### sSB 371

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF SERVICES TO ADJACENTLY LOCATED AND COMMONLY OWNED OR OPERATED FACILITIES BY INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL SPECIALISTS AND THE PROVISION OF ASSISTED LIVING SERVICES BY CERTAIN ELDERLY HOUSING COMPLEXES.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill makes various changes in current law's requirements for infection prevention and control specialists at nursing homes and dementia special care units (hereinafter, "facilities").

The bill limits the current requirement that these facilities employ a full-time specialist to only those facilities with more than 60 residents, and instead it requires smaller facilities to employ a part-time specialist.

It also removes a provision from current law requiring each facility to require its specialist to work on a rotating schedule that ensures he or she covers each eight-hour shift at least once monthly to ensure compliance with relevant standards. Under the bill, facilities instead must require the specialists to implement procedures to monitor the infection prevention and control practices of each daily shift to ensure compliance.

The bill allows infection prevention and control specialists to provide services at both a nursing home and dementia special care unit or at two nursing homes that are (1) next to each other or on the same campus and (2) commonly owned or operated.

It allows the Department of Public Health (DPH) commissioner to waive the law's infection prevention and control specialist requirements if she determines that doing so would not endanger the life, safety, or health of the facilities' residents or employees. If the commissioner waives a requirement, she may (1) impose conditions assuring

residents' and employees' health, safety, and welfare and (2) terminate the waiver if she finds that they have been jeopardized.

Additionally, the bill allows certain elderly housing complexes that intend to arrange for assisted living services to do so with a currently licensed assisted living services agency, exempting them from having to register as a managed residential community. This applies to elderly housing complexes funded and assisted through the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development's Assisted Living Conversion Program. Upon DPH's request, such a housing complex must inform DPH of its arrangement with a licensed agency, in a form and manner the commissioner prescribes.

The bill also makes minor and technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2022

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 28 Nay 2 (03/23/2022)