



Legislative Council Staff
Research Note

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Bill Number

House Bill 16-1424

Sponsors

Representative Vigil
Senator Garcia

Short Title

Qualified Medication
Administration Personnel

Research Analyst

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Status

This research note reflects the final version of the bill which became effective on July 1, 2016; except for section 3 of the bill, which will become effective on July 1, 2017.

Summary

The Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) oversees the administration of medications in prisons, jails, mental health facilities, and other state facilities by unlicensed individuals. The bill:

- specifies that "facility" also includes all services in support of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities that are funded through and regulated by the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing;
- eliminates the requirement that a qualified manager successfully complete a test pertaining to the administration of medication every four years and substitutes the requirement with the successful completion of a competency evaluation;
- requires the Department of Human Services, Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, and Department of Corrections to develop and conduct a medication administration program;
- authorizes CDPHE to establish the minimum requirements for course content, including competency evaluations, for medication administration and to determine compliance with the requirements for facilities; and
- prohibits an unlicensed person from filling and labeling medication reminder boxes until the person has successfully completed a competency evaluation from an approved training entity or has been approved by an authorized agency.

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Background

Unlicensed individuals who oversee the administration of medications in prisons, jails, mental health facilities, and other state facilities are referred to as qualified medication administration personnel (QMAP).

A QMAP can:

- administer medications according to written physician's orders;
- maintain proper documentation of the administration of both prescription and non-prescription drugs;
- use proper techniques when administering medications by various routes; and
- safely and accurately fill and administer medications to and from medication reminder boxes with oversight from a licensed person or qualified manager.

A QMAP is allowed to administer medications only in authorized settings, such as assisted living residences, adult foster care facilities, alternative care facilities, residential child care facilities, secure residential treatment centers, state certified adult day programs, and program approved service agencies (PASA) serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

A QMAP is not certified or licensed, and is not trained or authorized to make any type of judgment, assessment or evaluation of a client.

House Action

House Health, Insurance, and Environment Committee (April 7, 2016). At the hearing, representatives from the Colorado Assisted Living Association, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and Colorado Health Care Association testified in support of the bill. The committee referred the bill, unamended, to the House Appropriations Committee.

House Appropriations Committee (April 15, 2016). The committee adopted amendment J.001 and referred the bill to the House Committee of the Whole, as amended. The amendment added an appropriations clause to the bill.

House second reading (April 15, 2016). The House adopted the House Appropriations committee report and passed the bill on second reading, as amended.

House third reading (April 18, 2016). The House passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.

Senate Action

Senate Health and Human Services Committee (May 4, 2016). At the hearing, representatives from the Colorado Assisted Living Association, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Colorado Health Care Association, and Leading Age Colorado testified in support of the bill. One private citizen testified in a neutral position on the bill, and one private citizen testified in opposition to the bill. The committee referred the bill, unamended, to the Senate Finance Committee.

Senate Finance Committee (May 5, 2016). The committee referred the bill to the Senate

Appropriations Committee with no amendments.

Senate Appropriations Committee (May 5, 2016). The committee referred the bill to the Senate Committee of the Whole with no amendments.

Senate second reading (May 5, 2016). The Senate passed the bill on second reading with no amendments.

Senate third reading (May 6, 2016). The Senate passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.