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First Regular Session - 2025

## IN THE SENATE

## SENATE BILL NO. 1102

## BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

AN ACT RELATING TO THE IDAHO RESIDENTIAL CARE OR ASSISTED LIVING ACT; AMENDING SECTION 39-3301, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE LEGISLATIVE INTENT AND DECLA-RATIONS; AMENDING SECTION 39-3302, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE DEFINITIONS AND TO DEFINE TERMS; AMENDING SECTION 39-3303, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING PAYMENT LEVELS; AMENDING SECTION 39-3305, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING RULES; AMENDING SECTION 39-3307, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING ADMISSIONS; AMENDING SEC-TION 39-3308, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING ASSESSMENT; AMENDING SECTION 39-3309, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING NEGOTIATED SERVICE AGREEMENTS; AMENDING SECTION 39-3316, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING RESIDENT RIGHTS; AMENDING CHAPTER 33, TITLE 39, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 39-3316A, IDAHO CODE, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS REGARDING NOTICE OF RESIDENTS RIGHTS; AMENDING SECTION 39-3318, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING A FACILITY'S RESPONSE TO INCIDENTS AND COMPLAINTS; AMENDING SECTION 39-3321, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF ADMINISTRATORS; AMENDING SECTION 39-3322, IDAHO CODE, TO REMOVE A PROVISION REGARDING QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR FACILITY STAFF; AMENDING SECTION 39-3326, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PRO-VISIONS REGARDING MEDICATION; AMENDING SECTION 39-3340, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING LICENSING; AMENDING SECTION 39-3351, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING EXEMPTIONS; AMENDING SEC-TION 39-3352, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE A PROVISION REGARDING UNLICENSED RESIDENTIAL CARE OR ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES; REPEALING SECTION 39-3354A, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO PERMITTING SPECIAL WAIVERS; AMEND-ING CHAPTER 33, TITLE 39, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 39-3355A, IDAHO CODE, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS REGARDING INSPECTIONS; AMENDING CHAPTER 33, TITLE 39, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SEC-TION 39-3355B, IDAHO CODE, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS REGARDING PLANS OF CORRECTION; AMENDING SECTION 39-3356, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING COMPLAINTS; AMENDING SECTION 39-3357, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS REGARDING THE ENFORCEMENT PROCESS; AMENDING SECTION 63-701, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE A CORRECT CODE REFERENCE; PRO-VIDING THAT CERTAIN ADMINISTRATIVE RULES CONTAINED IN IDAPA 16.03.22 SHALL BE NULL, VOID, AND OF NO FORCE AND EFFECT; AND DECLARING AN EMER-GENCY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

39 SECTION 1. That Section 39-3301, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby 40 amended to read as follows:

39-3301. LEGISLATIVE INTENT AND DECLARATION. The purpose of a residential care or assisted living facility in Idaho is to provide a humane,

safe, and homelike living arrangement for adults who need some assistance with activities of daily living and personal care but do not require the level of care identified under section 39-1301(b), Idaho Code, other than for short exceptional stays meaning a treatment window designed to allow a resident to receive treatment for a short term acute episode as determined by a licensed professional nurse.

The state will encourage the development of facilities tailored to the needs of individual populations which that operate in integrated settings in communities where sufficient supportive services exist to provide the resident, if appropriate, an opportunity to work and be involved in recreation and education opportunities. Employment, recreational and educational opportunities for people with disabilities shall be offered in the most integrated setting consistent with their needs.

A residential care or assisted living facility shall be operated and staffed by individuals who have the knowledge and experience required to provide safe and appropriate services to all residents of the facility.

The administrator  $\underline{\text{or manager}}$  of the facility shall ensure that an objective, individualized assessment to determine resident needs is conducted, develop a comprehensive negotiated plan of care to meet those needs, deliver appropriate services to meet resident needs, and ensure resident rights are honored.

SECTION 2. That Section 39-3302, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

39-3302. DEFINITIONS. As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Abuse" means a nonaccidental act of sexual, physical or mental mistreatment or injury of a resident through the action or inaction of another individual.
- (2) "Accident" means an unexpected, unintended event that can cause a resident injury.
- (2) (3) "Accreditation" means a process of review that allows health care organizations to meet regulatory requirements and standards established by a recognized accreditation organization.
- $\overline{(3)}$  (4) "Accreditation commission" means the commission on accreditation of rehabilitation facilities (CARF), the joint commission, or another nationally recognized accreditation organization approved by the director.
- $\underline{\mbox{(4)}}$  (5) "Activities of daily living" means the performance of basic self-care activities in meeting an individual's needs to sustain him in a daily living environment.
- (5) (6) "Administrator" means an individual, properly licensed by the division of occupational and professional licenses, who is responsible for day-to-day operation of a residential care or assisted living facility.
- (7) "Administrator's designee" means a person authorized in writing to act in the absence of the administrator for no more than thirty (30) consecutive days when the administrator is on vacation, has days off, is ill, or is away for trainings or meetings. This individual shall be knowledgeable of facility operations, the residents and their needs, emergency procedures, the location and operation of emergency equipment, and how the administrator can be reached in the event of an emergency.

- $\frac{(6)}{(8)}$  "Adult" means a person who has attained the age of eighteen (18) years.
- (7) [9] "Advocate" means an authorized or designated representative of a program or organization operating under federal or state mandate to represent the interests of mentally ill, developmentally disabled, or elderly residents.
- (8) (10) "Assessment" means the conclusion reached using uniform criteria, which identifies resident strengths, weaknesses, risks and needs, to include functional, medical and behavioral needs. The assessment criteria shall be developed by the department and residential care or assisted living council.
- $\frac{(9)}{(11)}$  "Authorized provider" in this chapter means an individual who is a nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist or a physician assistant.
  - (10) (12) "Board" means the board of health and welfare.

- $\overline{(11)}$  "Chemical restraint" means a medication used to control behavior or to restrict freedom of movement and is not a standard treatment for the resident's condition.
- (14) "Complaint" means a formal expression of dissatisfaction, discontent, or unhappiness by, or on behalf of, a resident concerning the care or conditions at the facility. This expression could be oral or in writing or by an alternate means of communication.
- (12) (15) "Core issues" means abuse, neglect, exploitation, inadequate care, a situation in which the facility has operated for more than thirty (30) days without a licensed administrator designated the responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the facility, inoperable fire detection or extinguishing systems with no fire watch in place pending the correction of the system, and surveyors denied access to records, residents, or facilities.
- $\underline{\text{(16)}}$  "Deficiency" means a determination of noncompliance with any section of this chapter.
- $\frac{(13)}{(17)}$  "Department" means the Idaho department of health and welfare.
- $\overline{\text{(14)}}$   $\overline{\text{(18)}}$  "Director" means the director of the Idaho department of health and welfare.
- (19) "Exit conference" means a meeting with the facility administrator or his designee to provide review, discussion, and written documentation of non-core issues and to provide preliminary findings of core issues.
- (15) (20) "Exploitation" means the misuse of a resident's funds, property, resources, identity or person for profit or advantage.
- $\frac{\text{(16)}}{\text{(21)}}$  "Facility" means a residential care or assisted living facility.
- (22) "Follow-up survey" means a survey conducted to confirm the facility is in compliance and has the ability to remain in compliance.
- (17) (23) "Governmental unit" means the state, any county, any city, other political subdivision, or any department, division, board, or other agency thereof.
- (24) "Immediate jeopardy" means that immediate corrective action is required because the facility is noncompliant with health and safety requirements placing patients at risk of serious harm, injury, or death.

(18) (25) "Inadequate care" occurs when a facility fails to provide the services required to meet the terms of the negotiated service agreement or provide for room, board, activities of daily living, supervision, first aid, assistance and monitoring of medications, emergency intervention, coordination of outside services, a safe living environment; or engages in violations of residents' rights, or takes residents who have been admitted in violation of the provisions of section 39-3307, Idaho Code engages in actions or omissions that cause harm to a resident or create a situation likely to result in immediate jeopardy to the health, safety, or well-being of a resident.

(19) (26) "License" means a basic permit to operate a residential care or assisted living facility.

(20) (27) "Licensee" means the owner of a license to operate a residential care or assisted living facility under this chapter.

(21) (28) "Licensing agency" means the unit of the department of health and welfare that conducts inspections and surveys and issues licenses based on compliance with this chapter.

(29) "Manager" means the individual delegated by the administrator to manage the day-to-day operations of the facility.

(22) (30) "Neglect" means failure to provide food, clothing, shelter, or medical care necessary to sustain the life and health of a resident.

(23) (31) "Negotiated service agreement" means the agreement reached by the resident and/or the resident's representative and the facility, based on the assessment, physician's orders, admission records, and desires of the resident, and which outlines services to be provided and the obligations of the facility and the resident.

(32) "Non-core issue" means any finding of deficient practice that is not a core issue.

(24) (33) "Personal assistance" means the provision by the staff of the facility of one (1) or more of the following services:

- (a) Assisting the resident with activities of daily living;
- (b) Arranging for supportive services;

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- (c) Being aware of the resident's general whereabouts; and
- (d) Monitoring the activities of the resident while on the premises of the facility to ensure the resident's health, safety and well-being.
- (34) "Physical restraint" means any device or physical force that restricts the free movement of a portion of an individual's body, except for the temporary treatment of a medical condition, such as the use of a cast for a broken bone.

(25) (35) "Political subdivision" means a city or county.

(26) (36) "Resident" means an adult who lives in a residential care or assisted living facility.

(27) (37) "Residential care or assisted living facility" means a facility or residence, however named, operated on either a profit or nonprofit basis for the purpose of providing necessary supervision, personal assistance, meals and lodging to three (3) or more adults not related to the owner.

 $\frac{(28)}{(29)}$  "Room and board" means lodging and meals.  $\frac{(29)}{(39)}$  "Substantial compliance" means a facility has no core issue deficiencies.

(30) (40) "Supervision" means administrative activity which provides the following: protection, guidance, knowledge of the resident's general whereabouts, and assistance with activities of daily living. The administrator or manager is responsible for providing appropriate supervision based on each resident's negotiated service agreement or other legal requirements.

 $\overline{(31)}$   $\overline{(41)}$  "Supportive services" means the specific services that are provided to the resident in the community.

SECTION 3. That Section 39-3303, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

39-3303. PAYMENT LEVELS. (1) Clients of the department who are receiving financial aid as set out in sections 56-207, 56-208 and 56-209a, Idaho Code, seeking placement in a residential care or assisted living facility will be assessed by the department regarding their need for specific types of services and supports. This assessment will determine the reimbursement rate to the service provider.

Eligible participants must be allowed to choose the facility or services that are appropriate to meet their medical needs and financial ability to pay. The department shall is authorized to promulgate rules, subject to legislative approval, outlining the payment policy and calculations for clients of the department through negotiated rulemaking.

- (2) Residents who are not clients of the department shall:
- (a) Be assessed by the facility regarding their need for specific types of services and supports. This assessment, and the individual negotiated service agreement, shall determine the rate charged to the resident
- (b) Receive a full description of services provided by the facility and associated costs upon admission, according to facility policies and procedures. A thirty (30) day notice must be provided prior to a change in facility billing practices or policies. When a resident's level of care changes, a facility is entitled to charge the increased rate no sooner than the date that notice is provided. Billing practices shall be transparent and understandable.
- (c) Be charged for the use of furnishings, equipment, supplies and basic services as agreed upon in the negotiated service agreement or as identified in the admission agreement.

SECTION 4. That Section 39-3305, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

39-3305. RULES. (1) The board shall have the authority is authorized to adopt, amend, repeal and enforce such rules, subject to legislative approval, as may be necessary or proper to carry out the purpose and intent of this chapter which are designed to protect the health, safety and individual rights of residents in residential care or assisted living facilities. The department shall exercise the powers and perform the duties conferred upon it by this chapter, not inconsistent with any statute of this state. These rules shall are authorized, subject to legislative approval, to be promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Idaho administrative proce-

dure act. The department <u>shall</u> <u>is authorized to</u>, through negotiated rule-making, promulgate rules in the following areas, <u>subject to legislative approval:</u>

(a) Minimum criteria for the assessment;

- (b) Minimum criteria for the negotiated service agreement;
- (c) Guidelines for the facility's physical environment and location;
- (d) Criteria for the facility's license, to include:
  - (i) Initial license application criteria and procedures;
  - (ii) License renewal criteria, procedures and timing;
  - (iii) Inspection criteria and procedures;
  - (iv) Denial and revocation of license criteria and procedures; and
  - (v) Effect of previous revocation or denial of license.
- (e) Remedy and enforcement provisions for noncompliance with statute.
- (2) Rules <u>shall</u> <u>are authorized to</u> be drafted and promulgated, <u>subject to legislative approval</u>, following negotiation with interested providers, assisted living <u>nurse</u> associations, and advocates.
- SECTION 5. That Section 39-3307, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 39-3307. ADMISSIONS. (1) A residential care or assisted living facility shall not admit or retain any resident requiring a level of services or type of service for which the facility is not licensed or which the facility does not provide or arrange for, or if the facility does not have the staff, appropriate in numbers and with appropriate skills, to provide. Prospective residents will also be informed of options and rights available through other programs, to include medicare benefits where applicable. The department shall provide forms for this.
- (2) The department  $\frac{1}{1}$  is authorized to develop rules, subject to  $\frac{1}{1}$  legislative approval, governing admissions to residential care or assisted living facilities.
- SECTION 6. That Section 39-3308, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 39-3308. ASSESSMENT. (1) Initial assessments may be completed within thirty (30) days prior to a resident's move into a residential care or assisted living facility, but must be completed prior to admission.
- (2) The department shall employ uniform assessment criteria to assess function and cognitive disability. The conclusions shall be deemed the assessment and shall be used to provide appropriate placement and funding for service needs. The assessment shall also be used to ensure funding is cost-effective and appropriate when compared to other state programs relevant to the needs of the client being assessed. The department shall is authorized to develop rules, subject to legislative approval, regarding:
  - (1) (a) Qualifications of persons making the assessments.;
  - (2) (b) Department's responsibility for state pay clients.;
  - (3) Time frames for completing an assessment.
  - (4) (c) Information to be included in an assessment.;

- (5) (d) Use of an assessment in developing the negotiated service agreement.;
- $\frac{\text{(6)}}{\text{(e)}}$  Use of assessments in determining facility staffing ratios.; and
- $\overline{(7)}$  (f) Use of assessments for determining the ability of provider and facility to meet residents' needs and special training or licenses that may be required in caring for certain residents.
- (3) The administrator shall ensure policies and procedures are developed and implemented to ensure nursing services are performed in accordance with applicable state regulations and the provisions of this chapter.
  - (4) (a) A licensed nurse shall visit the facility at least once every ninety (90) days to conduct quarterly nursing assessments for each resident. A licensed nurse is responsible for delegating to others as appropriate based on the nurse's license.
  - (b) The licensed nurse shall be available to address changes in a resident's health or mental status, to review and implement new orders, and to notify a physician or authorized provider when a resident repeatedly refuses to follow physician orders.
- SECTION 7. That Section 39-3309, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 39-3309. NEGOTIATED SERVICE AGREEMENT. (1) Each resident shall be provided a negotiated service agreement to provide for coordination of services and for guidance of the staff and management of the facility where the person resides. Upon completion, the agreement shall clearly identify the resident and describe the services to be provided to the resident and how such services are to be delivered. The negotiated service agreement shall be reviewed at least annually and upon any change in a diagnosis for the resident or other condition requiring substantially different additional or replacement services.
  - (2) A negotiated service agreement shall be based on the person's:
  - (a) Assessment;

- (b) Service needs for activities of daily living;
- (c) Need for limited nursing services;
- (d) Need for medication assistance;
- (e) Frequency of needed services;
- (f) Level of assistance, i.e., standby, reminding, total;
- (g) Signature and approval of agreement; and
- (h) Signing date that the plan was approved and date plan will be reviewed.
- (3) The administrator or manager shall consult the resident, or the resident's family, guardian, representative, friends, or case manager and/or consumer coordinator, as necessary, in the development of the resident's service agreement.
- (4) A copy of the agreement shall be given to the resident and a copy placed in the resident's records file no later than two (2) weeks from admission.
- (5) A resident shall be given the choice and control of how and what services the facility shall provide, or external vendors shall provide, to the

extent the resident can make choices, so long as the resident's choice does not violate the provisions of section 39-3307(1), Idaho Code.

- (6) On an exception basis, a record shall be made of any changes or inability to provide services outlined in the negotiated service agreement.
- (7) The agreement shall include a statement regarding when there is  $\frac{1}{100}$  need for access to external services.
- (8) There shall be documentation of refusal of certain treatments by competent resident or legal health care representative.
- SECTION 8. That Section 39-3316, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 39-3316. RESIDENT RIGHTS. A The administrator of a residential care or assisted living facility must ensure that policies and procedures are developed and implemented that protect and promote the rights of each resident, including each of the following rights:
- (1) Resident records. <u>Upon request</u>, a resident or others authorized by law shall be provided immediate access to information on the resident's record and shall be provided with copies of such information within two (2) <u>business days</u>. Each facility must maintain and keep current a record of the following information on each resident:
  - (a) A copy of the resident's current negotiated service agreement and physician's order.
  - (b) Written acknowledgment that the resident has received copies of the rights.
  - (c) A record of all personal property and funds that the resident has entrusted to the facility, including copies of receipts for the property.
  - (d) Information about any specific health problems of the resident that may be useful in a medical emergency.
  - (e) The name, address and telephone number of an individual identified by the resident who should be contacted in the event of an emergency or death of the resident.
  - (f) Any other health-related, emergency, or pertinent information the resident requests the facility to keep on record.
  - (g) The current admission agreement between the resident and the facility.
- (2) Privacy. Each resident must be assured the right to privacy with regard to accommodations, medical and other treatment, written and telephone communications, visits, and meetings of family and resident groups.
  - (3) Humane care and environment, (dignity, and respect).
  - (a) Each resident shall have the right to humane care and a humane environment, including the following:
    - (i) The right to a diet consistent with any religious or health-related restrictions.
    - (ii) The right to refuse a restricted diet.
    - (iii) The right to a safe and sanitary living environment.
  - (b) Each resident shall have the right to be treated with dignity and respect, including:
    - (i) The right to be treated in a courteous manner by staff.

- (ii) The right to receive a response from the facility to any request of the resident within a reasonable time.
- (iii) The right to be communicated with, orally and/or in writing, in a language the resident understands.
- (4) Personal possessions. Each resident shall have the right to:
- (a) Wear his own clothing.

- (b) Determine his own dress or hair style.
- (c) Retain and use his own personal property in his own living area so as to maintain individuality and personal dignity.
- (d) Be provided a separate storage area in his own living area and at least one (1) locked cabinet or drawer for keeping personal property.
- (5) Personal funds. Residents whose board and care is paid for by public assistance shall retain, for their personal use, the difference between their total income and the applicable board and care rent, utilities, and food allowance established by department rules.
  - (a) A facility shall not require a resident to deposit his personal funds with the facility.
  - (b) Once the facility accepts the written authorization of the resident, it must hold, safeguard, and account for such personal funds under a system established and maintained by the facility in accordance with this paragraph.
- (6) Management of personal funds. Upon a facility's acceptance of written authorization of a resident, the facility must manage and account for the personal funds of the resident deposited with the facility as follows:
  - (a) The facility must deposit any amount of a resident's personal funds in excess of five (5) times the personal needs allowance in an interest-bearing account (or accounts) that is separate from any of the facility's operating accounts and credit all interest earned on such separate account to such account. The facility must maintain any other personal funds in a noninterest-bearing account or petty cash fund.
  - (b) The facility must assure a full and complete separate accounting of each resident's personal funds, maintain a written record of all financial transactions involving each resident's personal funds deposited with the facility, and afford each resident (or a legal representative of each resident) reasonable access to such record.
  - (c) Upon the death of a resident with such an account, the facility must promptly convey the resident's personal funds (and a final accounting of such funds) to the individual administering the resident's estate. For clients of the department, the remaining balance of funds shall be refunded to the department medicaid estate recovery unit.
  - (7) Access and visitation rights. Each facility must permit:
  - (a) Immediate in-person access to any resident by any representative of the department, by the state ombudsman for the elderly or his designees, or by the resident's individual physician.
  - (b) Immediate in-person access to a resident, subject to the resident's right to deny or withdraw consent at any time, by immediate family or other relatives.

- (c) Immediate access to a resident, subject to reasonable restrictions and the resident's right to deny or withdraw consent at any time, by others who are visiting with the consent of the resident.
- (d) Reasonable access to a resident by any entity or individual that provides health, social, legal, or other services to the resident, subject to the resident's right to deny or withdraw consent at any time.
- (8) Employment. Each resident shall have the right to refuse to perform services for the facility except as contracted for by the resident and the administrator of the facility. If the resident is hired by the facility to perform services as an employee of the facility, the wage paid to the resident shall be consistent with state and federal law.
- (9) Confidentiality. Each resident shall have the right to confidentiality of personal and clinical records.
- (10) Freedom from abuse, neglect, and restraints. Each resident shall have the right to be free from physical, mental, or sexual abuse, neglect, corporal punishment, involuntary seclusion, and any physical or chemical restraints. The use of supportive devices with restraining qualities is permissible if the following conditions are met:
  - (a) For residents with the cognitive ability to consent, the facility shall document the following:
    - (i) The resident specifically requests or approves of the device and a licensed health care professional has informed the individual of the risks and benefits associated with the device;
    - (ii) A facility nurse acting within the nurse's scope of license has conducted a thorough assessment;
    - (iii) The facility has documented other less restrictive alternatives evaluated prior to the use of the device and obtained written consent from the patient or representative; and
    - (iv) The facility has instructed direct care staff on the correct use and precautions related to the device.
  - (b) Supportive devices with restraining qualities are permissible for residents who are unable to evaluate the risks and benefits of the device when the conditions contained in paragraph (a) (ii) through (iv) of this subsection are present and documented by the facility. The facility shall also obtain and document the consent of the resident's guardian, representative, or power of attorney as applicable.
  - (c) Documentation of the use of supportive devices with restraining qualities shall be included in the resident's service plan and evaluated on a quarterly basis.
- (11) Freedom of religion. Each resident shall have the right to practice the religion of his choice or to abstain from religious practice. Residents shall also be free from the imposition of the religious practices of others.
- (12) Control and receipt of health-related services. Each resident shall have the right to control his receipt of health-related services, including:
  - (a) The right to retain the services of his own personal physician, dentist and other health care professionals.
  - (b) The right to select the pharmacy or pharmacist of his choice so long as it meets the statute and rules governing residential care or assisted

- living and the policies and procedures of the residential care or assisted living facility.
- (c) The right to confidentiality and privacy concerning his medical or dental condition and treatment.
- (d) The right to refuse medical services based on informed decision-making. Refusal of treatment does not relieve the facility of its obligations under this chapter.
  - (i) The facility shall document that the resident and the resident's legal guardian have been informed of the consequences of the refusal; and
  - (ii) The facility shall document that the resident's physician or authorized provider has been notified of the resident's refusal.
- (13) Grievances. Each resident shall have the right to voice grievances with respect to treatment or care that is (or fails to be) furnished without discrimination or reprisal for voicing the grievances and the right to prompt efforts by the facility to resolve grievances the resident may have, including those with respect to the behavior of other residents.
- (14) Participation in resident and family groups. Each resident shall have the right to organize and participate in resident groups in the facility and the right of the resident's family to meet in the facility with the families of other residents in the facility.
- (15) Participation in other activities. Each resident shall have the right to participate in social, religious, and community activities that do not interfere with the rights of other residents in the facility.
- (16) Examination of survey results. Each resident shall have the right to examine, upon reasonable request, the results of the most recent survey of the facility conducted by the department with respect to the facility and any plan of correction in effect with respect to the facility.
- (17) Access by advocates and representatives. A residential care or assisted living facility shall permit advocates and representatives of community legal services programs, whose purposes include rendering assistance without charge to residents, to have access to the facility at reasonable times in order to:.
  - (a) Visit, talk with, and make personal, social and legal services available to all residents.
  - (b) Inform residents of their rights and entitlements, and their corresponding obligations, under state, federal and local laws by distribution of educational materials and discussion in groups and with individuals.
  - (c) Assist residents in asserting their legal rights regarding claims for public assistance, medical assistance and social security benefits and in all other matters in which residents are aggrieved, which may be provided individually or in a group basis and may include organizational activity, counseling and litigation.
  - (d) Engage in all other methods of assisting, advising and representing residents so as to extend to them the full enjoyment of their rights.
  - (e) Communicate privately and without restrictions with any resident who consents to the communication.
  - (f) Observe all common areas of the facility.

(18) Access by protection and advocacy system. A residential care or assisted living facility shall permit advocates and representatives of the protection and advocacy system, designated by the governor pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 15043 and 10801 et seq., access to residents, facilities and records in accordance with applicable federal statutes and regulations.

- (19) Access by the long-term care ombudsman. A residential care or assisted living facility shall permit advocates and representatives of the long-term care ombudsman program, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 3058, section 67-5009, Idaho Code, and IDAPA 15.01.03, rules of the commission on aging, access to residents, facilities and records in accordance with applicable federal and state law, rules and regulations.
- (20) A facility may not require precautions, such as health screenings, for in-person visitors that are more stringent than precautions for facility staff, and in-person access pursuant to subsection (7) (a) and (b) of this section shall not be precluded on the basis of a visitor's vaccination status.
- (21) Each resident shall have the right to be transferred or discharged only for medical reasons, for the resident's welfare or the welfare of other residents, or for nonpayment of the resident's stay. In non-emergency conditions, the resident shall be given at least thirty (30) calendar days notice of discharge. A resident has the right to appeal any involuntary discharge.
- SECTION 9. That Chapter 33, Title 39, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a  $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$ , to be known and designated as Section 39-3316A, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
  - 39-3316A. NOTICE OF RESIDENTS' RIGHTS. Each facility shall:
- (1) Inform each resident, orally and in writing, at the time of admission to the facility of the resident's legal rights during the stay at the facility;
- (2) Make available to each resident, upon reasonable request, a written statement of such rights, and notify a resident when such rights change;
- (3) Ensure the written statement of legal rights includes a description of the protection of personal funds and a statement that a resident may file a complaint with the department regarding resident abuse, neglect, and misappropriation of resident property in the facility at any time; and
- (4) Conspicuously post the residents' rights in the facility at all times.
- SECTION 10. That Section 39-3318, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 39-3318. FACILITY RESPONSE TO INCIDENTS AND COMPLAINTS. (1) In addition to any other requirements of this chapter, the residential care or assisted living facility shall provide a procedure approved by the licensing agency for immediate response to incidents and complaints. This procedure shall include a method of assuring that the administrator or designee has personally investigated the matter, and that the person making the complaint or reporting the incident has received a response of action taken or a reason why no action needs to be taken. In the case of anonymous complaints, the

administrator or designee shall document the action taken or a reason why no action needs to be taken have a process in place to address incidents and complaints.

 (2) In order to assure the opportunity for complaints from the residents, the neighborhood, and the community to be made directly to the administrator or designee, each facility shall, within a reasonable period of time, meet with a complainant.

SECTION 11. That Section 39-3321, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 39-3321. QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF ADMINISTRATOR. (1) Each residential care or assisted living facility must employ at least one (1) administrator licensed by the division of occupational and professional licenses, which is responsible for licensing residential care facility administrators for the state of Idaho. Multiple Up to three (3) multiple facilities under one (1) administrator  $\frac{1}{1}$  be allowed by the department  $\frac{1}{1}$  be an approved plan of operation.
- (2) The administrator or the administrator's designee is responsible for:
  - (a) Ensuring that policies and procedures are developed and implemented to comply with this chapter;
  - (b) Ensuring that adult protective services and law enforcement are notified when required pursuant to sections 39-5303 and 39-5310, Idaho Code;
  - (c) Ensuring that facility procedures for investigation of complaints, incidents, accidents, and allegations of abuse, neglect, or exploitation are implemented to ensure resident safety;
  - (d) Identifying and monitoring patterns of accidents, incidents, or complaints and developing interventions to prevent recurrences;
  - (e) Completing an investigation and written report of the findings within thirty (30) calendar days for each accident, incident, complaint, or allegation of abuse, neglect, or exploitation;
  - (f) Being reachable and available at all times; and
  - (g) Ensuring that no personnel providing hands-on care or supervision services is under seventeen (17) years of age, unless such personnel have completed a certified nursing assistant certification course.
- (3) The administrator or the administrator's designee must be notified of all serious incidents, accidents, or allegations of abuse, neglect, or exploitation immediately and notified of complaints regarding health and safety issues within one (1) business day.
- (4) When abuse, neglect, exploitation, incidents, or accidents occur, corrective action shall be immediately taken and monitored to ensure the problem does not recur.
- (5) When a reportable incident occurs, the administrator or administrator's designee shall notify the licensing agency within one (1) business day of the incident.
- (6) The facility shall notify the licensing agency, in writing, within three (3) business days of a change of administrator.

SECTION 12. That Section 39-3322, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 39-3322. QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR FACILITY STAFF. (1) Each facility must employ or arrange for sufficient trained staff to fully meet the needs of its residents and the requirements of this chapter. The facility shall have sufficient staff to provide care during all hours required in each resident's negotiated service plan. Additional staff may be required if physical plant and disability of residents indicate that staff assistance in emergencies is required. Benchmarks shall be established in the assessment criteria where the need for certified nursing assistants or licensed nurses is indicated. Residential care or assisted living facilities shall not retain residents who require the care provided by nursing facilities under section 39-1301(b), Idaho Code, other than for short exceptional stays pursuant to negotiated rulemaking as defined in chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code.
- (2) Should a residential care or assisted living facility choose not to carry professional liability insurance, that information shall be disclosed, in writing, to employees at the time of hiring.
- SECTION 13. That Section 39-3326, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 39-3326. MEDICATIONS. The medication policy governed by the policy and procedure of the facility shall include a policy permitting, under the conditions specified, a licensed nurse to fill individual dose systems such as blister pack, mediset, or other system approved by the department and label with the name, dosage, amount, time to be taken, and special instructions if appropriate. The policy shall provide for appropriate records to maintain security of medications received from a pharmacist in accordance with pharmacy standards. The licensed nurse shall appropriately label the medication with name, dosage, amount and time to be taken, and special instructions if appropriate. Facilities may choose to use bulk containers for over-the-counter medications.
- SECTION 14. That Section 39-3340, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 39-3340. LICENSING. (1) Any person, firm, partnership, association, governmental unit, or corporation within the state proposing to operate, establish, manage, conduct, or maintain a residential care or assisted living facility in the state shall have a license issued by the licensing agency of the department. A license is not transferable. The owner of the license has ultimate responsibility for the operation of the facility.
- (2) Each residential care or assisted living facility in the state requires an administrator, properly licensed by the division of occupational and professional licenses, who is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the facility. The licensed administrator may perform the day-to-day responsibilities at the facility or may delegate all day-to-day responsibilities to a facility manager. A licensed administrator may serve up to

 $\underline{\text{three (3)}}$  multiple facilities and delegate all day-to-day responsibilities to on-site managers.

- (3) A license is not transferable from one (1) individual to another, from one (1) business entity to another, or from one (1) location to another. When a change of operator, ownership or location occurs, the facility shall be relicensed, and the operator shall follow the application procedures and obtain a license before commencing operation as a facility. When there is a significant change in an owner's share of the facility that does not alter the overall ownership or operation of the business, that change shall be communicated to the licensing agency within sixty (60) days of the effective date of the change. When the owner contracts the operation to a facility management company, other than for temporary management, it shall be treated as a change of operator.
  - (3) All facilities must be licensed by the department.

- (a) Change of building ownership, new construction, or buildings being converted to a facility shall be licensed, and the operator shall follow the application procedures and obtain a license before commencing operation as a facility.
- (b) When there is a change of operator or lessee in currently licensed buildings, the operator or lessee shall follow the licensing process for currently licensed buildings. Facilities shall submit requested licensing documents to the department. Any company or individual established in the state of Idaho with at least one (1) operating facility shall not be required to submit an updated copy of policies and procedures. The licensing process shall not require a fire life safety inspection prior to license issuance. Within one hundred eighty (180) days of license issuance fire life safety shall inspect and provide recommendations, if any, to the new operator or lessee.
- (c) Any minor change of ownership of existing buildings shall be communicated to the department within sixty (60) days of the change.
- (d) Exceptions to the provisions of this section may be made by the department for temporary management.

SECTION 15. That Section 39-3351, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 39-3351. EXEMPTIONS. The provisions of this chapter do not apply to any of the following:
  - (1) Any health facility as defined by chapter 13, title 39, Idaho Code.;
- (2) Any house, institution, hotel, congregate housing project, retirement home or other similar place that is limited to providing one (1) or more of the following: housing, meals, transportation, housekeeping, or recreational and social activities; or that has residents accessing supportive services from an entity approved to provide such services in Idaho and holding no legal ownership interest in the entity operating the facility—; or
  - (3) Any arrangement for the receiving and care of persons by a relative.
  - (4) Any similar facility determined by the director.

SECTION 16. That Section 39-3352, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

39-3352. UNLICENSED RESIDENTIAL CARE OR ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES. (1) No unlicensed residential care or assisted living facility shall operate in this state.

- (2) A facility shall be deemed to be an "unlicensed residential care or assisted living facility" and "maintained and operated to provide services" if it is unlicensed and not exempt from licensure, and any one (1) of the following conditions is satisfied:
  - (a) The facility is, or is held out as or represented as, providing care, supervision and services.
  - (b) The facility accepts or retains residents who demonstrate the need for care, supervision, and services, as defined in this chapter or the rules adopted pursuant to this chapter.
- (3) Upon discovery of an unlicensed residential care or assisted living facility, the department shall refer residents to the appropriate placement or adult protective services agency if either of the following conditions exist:
  - (a) There is an immediate threat to the resident's health and safety.
  - (b) The facility will not cooperate with the licensing agency to apply for a license, meet licensing standards, and obtain a valid license.
- (4) A person found to be operating a residential care or assisted living facility without a license  $\frac{1}{2}$  be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not to exceed six (6) months, or by a fine not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000).
- (5) In the event the county attorney in the county where the alleged violation occurred fails or refuses to act within thirty (30) days of notification of the violation, the attorney general is authorized to prosecute violations under the provisions of this section.
- SECTION 17. That Section 39-3354A, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby repealed.
- SECTION 18. That Chapter 33, Title 39, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a  $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$ , to be known and designated as Section 39-3355A, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 39-3355A. INSPECTIONS. (1) The licensing agency shall cause to be made such inspections and investigations to determine compliance with this chapter and applicable rules.
- (2) Initial inspections, licensure or re-licensure inspections, follow-up inspections, and fire life safety inspections shall be scheduled in advance, with facilities receiving notice at least thirty (30) days prior to the inspection date.
- (3) Initial surveys shall be conducted within ninety (90) days of licensure, followed by a licensure survey within fifteen (15) months.
- (4) Complaint investigation surveys shall occur based on the potential severity of the complaint and shall be made unannounced and without prior notice.
- (5) The department may accept the services of any qualified person or organization, either public or private, to examine, survey, or inspect any entity requesting or holding a facility license, including as described in subsection (13) of this section.

(6) An inspector shall have full access and authority to examine, among other things, quality of care and service delivery, a facility's records, resident accounts, and physical premises, including buildings, grounds and equipment, and any other areas necessary to determine compliance with this chapter and applicable rules.

- (7) An inspector shall have authority to interview the licensee, administrator, staff, and residents. Interviews with residents shall be confidential and conducted privately unless otherwise specified by the resident.
- (8) The licensing agency shall notify the facility, in writing, of all deficiencies, provide a proposed plan of correction for all deficiencies, and approve a reasonable length of time for compliance by the facility. At the time of the exit conference, the licensing agency shall provide the facility a written report specifying the non-core issue deficiencies. Facilities are not required to submit plans of correction for non-core deficiencies.
- (9) When core issues are identified during a survey, the licensing agency shall provide a written report within ten (10) business days of the exit conference or the last day of receipt of additional material. Facilities may either adopt the proposed plan of correction or submit an alternative plan of correction for approval by the department for core issue deficiencies.
- (10) If any deficiencies constitute an immediate jeopardy, the department shall require immediate correction of deficient practice.
- (11) Current lists of deficiencies, including plans of correction, shall be available to the public upon request in the individual facilities or by written request to the department.
- (12) The licensing agency shall conduct follow-up surveys to ascertain corrections to issues are made according to the time frames established in the plan of correction for core issues. If the department identifies repeat deficient facility practices during any follow-up survey, the department may initiate or extend enforcement actions.
- (13) The department shall accept an accreditation survey from an accreditation commission for a residential care or assisted living facility instead of regular compliance inspections conducted under the authority of this section if all of the following conditions are met:
  - (a) The accreditation commission's standards meet or exceed the state requirements for licensure for residential care or assisted living facilities;
  - (b) The facility submits to the department a copy of its required accreditation reports to the accreditation commission in addition to the application and any other information required for renewal of a license;
  - (c) The inspection results are available for public inspection to the same extent that the results of an investigation or inspection conducted under this section are available for public inspection;
  - (d) The accreditation commission complies with the health insurance portability and accountability act and takes reasonable precautions to protect the confidentiality of personally identifiable information concerning the residents of the facility; and

- (e) If the facility's accreditation report is not valid for the entire licensure period, the department may conduct a compliance inspection of the facility during the time period for which the department does not have a valid accreditation report.
- (14) The department shall establish a self-inspection program for facilities that receive a gold or silver rating, defined as high ratings with no significant deficiencies on the most recent inspection. Qualifying facilities shall conduct self-inspections for complaints received by the department that do not involve health or safety concerns. Facilities shall submit findings and corrective actions to the department. The department retains the authority to conduct verification inspections for complaints involving health or safety concerns or incomplete reports.
- (15) The department shall not conduct an on-site compliance inspection of the residential care or assisted living facility during the time the accreditation report is valid except for complaint surveys or in cases of emergencies. Accreditation does not limit the department in performing any power or duty under this chapter or inspection authorized under this section, including taking appropriate action relating to a residential care or assisted living facility, such as suspending or revoking a license, investigating an allegation of abuse, exploitation, or neglect or another complaint, or assessing an administrative penalty.
- SECTION 19. That Chapter 33, Title 39, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a  $\underline{\text{NEW SECTION}}$ , to be known and designated as Section 39-3355B, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:
- 39-3355B. PLAN OF CORRECTION FOR CORE ISSUES. (1) The facility shall either accept the proposed plan of correction for core issues or develop and submit an acceptable plan of correction to the licensing agency within ten (10) business days of receipt of the written report of identified core issues. If an acceptable plan of correction is not submitted within the required time frame, the department may initiate or extend enforcement actions.
  - (2) An acceptable plan of correction shall include:
  - (a) A plan to ensure correction of each deficient practice and ongoing compliance;
  - (b) A description of how, and at what frequency, corrective actions will be monitored to ensure that each deficient practice is corrected and will not recur, such as what program will be put into place to monitor the continued effectiveness of the systemic change; and
  - (c) The completion date for correcting each deficiency. No correction date may be more than forty-five (45) days from the exit date printed on the written report except in unusual circumstances and only with the written approval of the licensing agency.
- SECTION 20. That Section 39-3356, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 39-3356. COMPLAINTS. (1) A person who believes that any provision of this chapter has been violated may file a complaint with the licensing agency.

- (2) The licensing agency shall investigate, or cause to be investigated, any complaint alleging a violation of this chapter or applicable rules, regulations and standards. If the licensing agency reasonably believes a requirement of this chapter has been violated, it shall conduct an inspection of the facility <u>unannounced</u>, <u>unscheduled</u>, and <u>without written</u> notice.
- (3) A complaint filed with the licensing agency which is subsequently released to the facility that is the subject of the complaint or to any member of the public shall not disclose the name or identifying characteristics of the complainant unless:
  - (a) The complainant consents in writing to the disclosure.

- (b) The investigation results in a judicial proceeding and disclosure is ordered by the court.
- (c) If the disclosure is essential to the investigation, the complainant shall be given an opportunity to withdraw the complaint before disclosure.
- (4) The licensing agency shall inform the complainant or, if requested by the complainant, the complainant's designated representative, of the results of the investigation and any action taken by the agency.
- (5) Complaints shall not be listed on the department's public website. Substantiated complaints that result in a citation may be included in the inspection results on the department's public website.
- SECTION 21. That Section 39-3357, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 39-3357. ENFORCEMENT PROCESS. (1) If the licensing agency finds, on the basis of inspections as defined in this chapter or otherwise, that a residential or assisted living facility no longer meets a requirement of this chapter, and further finds that the facility's deficiencies:
  - (a) Immediately jeopardize the health or safety of its residents, the department shall take immediate action to remove the jeopardy and correct the deficiencies through the remedy specified in section 39-3358(1)(c), Idaho Code, or prohibit the facility from keeping or admitting residents and may provide, in addition, for one (1) or more of the other remedies described in section 39-3358, Idaho Code.
  - (b) Do not immediately jeopardize the health or safety of its residents, the department shall provide for one (1) or more of the remedies described in section 39-3358, Idaho Code.
- (2) Nothing in this section shall be construed as restricting the remedies available to the department to remedy a facility's deficiencies. If the department finds that a facility meets the requirements of this chapter, but, as of a previous period, intentionally did not meet such requirements, the department may provide for a civil money penalty under section 39-3358(1)(b), Idaho Code, for the days in which it finds that the facility was not in compliance with such requirements.
- (3) Residential care or assisted living facilities may be cited only for a violation of a requirement that is specified in an applicable law or in a rule promulgated in compliance with an applicable law. Facilities may not be cited for an act that is not expressly proscribed by an applicable law or rule or for an omission when an applicable law or rule does not expressly

require the conduct omitted. If the department requires a specific corrective action in relation to a citation, that requirement must be in writing and reference the corresponding rule.

- (4) If a civil money penalty is assessed against a facility for deficiencies that do not require relocation of residents or facility closure, the facility may use funds equal to the penalty amount to correct the deficiencies instead of paying the penalty. Documentation of expenditures addressing the deficiencies must be submitted to the department.
- (5) Funds collected from such penalties, including those held by the department on July 1, 2025, or collected after such date, may be used by facilities through a department-administered grant program to improve resident care and quality of life. The department shall establish guidelines and a process for grant applications and fund distribution.

SECTION 22. That Section 63-701, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

## 63-701. DEFINITIONS. As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Claimant" means a person who has filed an application under section 63-602G, Idaho Code, and has filed a claim under the provisions of sections 63-701 through 63-710, Idaho Code. Except as provided in section 63-702(2), Idaho Code, on January 1 or before April 15 of the year in which the claimant first filed a claim on the homestead in question, a claimant must be an owner of the homestead, a claimant must have lawful presence in the United States pursuant to section 67-7903, Idaho Code, and on January 1 of said year a claimant must be:
  - (a) Not less than sixty-five (65) years old; or
  - (b) A child under the age of eighteen (18) years who is fatherless or motherless or who has been abandoned by any surviving parent or parents; or
  - (c) A widow or widower; or
  - (d) A disabled person who is recognized as disabled by the social security administration pursuant to title 42 of the United States Code, or by the railroad retirement board pursuant to title 45 of the United States Code, or by the office of management and budget pursuant to title 5 of the United States Code, or, if a person is not within the purview of, and is therefore not recognized as disabled by, any other entity listed in this paragraph, then by the public employee retirement system or public employee disability plan in which the person participates that may be of any state, local unit of government or other jurisdiction in the United States of America; or
  - (e) A disabled veteran of any war engaged in by the United States, whose disability is recognized as a service-connected disability of a degree of ten percent (10%) or more, or who has a pension for nonservice-connected disabilities, in accordance with laws and regulations administered by the United States department of veterans affairs; or
  - (f) A person, as specified in 42 U.S.C. 1701, who was or is entitled to receive benefits because he is known to have been taken by a hostile force as a prisoner, hostage or otherwise; or
  - (g) Blind.

- (2) "Homestead" means the dwelling, owner-occupied by the claimant as described in this chapter and used as the primary dwelling place of the claimant and may be occupied by any members of the household as their home, and so much of the land surrounding it, not exceeding one (1) acre, as is reasonably necessary for the use of the dwelling as a home. It may consist of a part of a multidwelling or multipurpose building and part of the land upon which it is built. "Homestead" does not include personal property such as furniture, furnishings or appliances, but a manufactured home may be a homestead.
- (3) "Household" means the claimant and the claimant's spouse. The term does not include bona fide lessees, tenants, or roomers and boarders on contract. "Household" includes persons described in subsection (8) (b) of this section.
- (4) "Household income" means all income received by the claimant and, if married, all income received by the claimant's spouse, in a calendar year.
- (5) "Income" means the sum of federal adjusted gross income as defined in the Internal Revenue Code, as defined in section 63-3004, Idaho Code, and to the extent not already included in federal adjusted gross income:
  - (a) Alimony;

- (b) Support money;
- (c) Nontaxable strike benefits;
- (d) The nontaxable amount of any individual retirement account, pension or annuity, including railroad retirement benefits, all payments received under the federal social security act except the social security death benefit as specified in this subsection, state unemployment insurance laws, and veterans disability pensions and compensation, excluding any return of principal paid by the recipient of an annuity and excluding rollovers as provided in 26 U.S.C. 402 or 403, and excluding the nontaxable portion of a Roth individual retirement account distribution, as provided in 26 U.S.C. 408A;
- (e) Nontaxable interest received from the federal government or any of its instrumentalities or a state government or any of its instrumentalities;
- (f) Worker's compensation; and
- (g) The gross amount of loss of earnings insurance.

It does not include gifts from nongovernmental sources or inheritances. To the extent not reimbursed, the cost of medical care as defined in section 213(d) of the Internal Revenue Code, incurred and paid by the claimant and, if married, the claimant's spouse, may be deducted from income. To the extent not reimbursed, personal funeral expenses, including prepaid funeral expenses and premiums on funeral insurance, of the claimant and claimant's spouse only, may be deducted from income up to an annual maximum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per claim. "Income" does not include veterans disability pensions received by a person described in subsection (1)(e) of this section who is a claimant or a claimant's spouse if the disability pension is received pursuant to a service-connected disability of a degree of forty percent (40%) or more. "Income" does not include dependency and indemnity compensation or death benefits paid to a person described in subsection (1) of this section by the United States department of veterans affairs and arising from a service-connected death or disability. "Income"

does not include lump sum death benefits made by the social security administration pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 402(i). Documentation of medical expenses may be required by the county assessor and state tax commission in such form as the county assessor or state tax commission shall determine. For purposes of this chapter only and in the case of a claimant who owns and whose homestead is a certified family home as defined in section 39-3502, Idaho Code, "income" does not include payments that the claimant received as an enrolled medicaid provider from the medical assistance program. "Income" shall be that received in the calendar year immediately preceding the year in which a claim is filed. Where a claimant and/or the claimant's spouse does not file a federal tax return, the claimant's and/or the claimant's spouse's federal adjusted gross income, for purposes of this section, shall be an income equivalent to federal adjusted gross income had the claimant and/or the claimant's spouse filed a federal tax return, as determined by the county assessor. The county assessor or state tax commission may require documentation of income in such form as each shall determine, including, but not limited to: copies of federal or state tax returns and any attachments thereto; and income reporting forms such as the W-2 and 1099.

For determining income for certain married individuals living apart, the provisions of sections 2(c) and 7703(b) of the Internal Revenue Code shall apply.

(6) "Occupied" means actual use and possession.

- (7) "Owner" means a person holding title in fee simple or holding a certificate of motor vehicle title (either of which may be subject to mortgage, deed of trust or other lien) or who has retained or been granted a life estate or who is a person entitled to file a claim under section 63-702, Idaho Code. "Owner" shall also include any person who:
  - (a) Is the beneficiary of a revocable or irrevocable trust which is the owner of such homestead and under which the claimant or the claimant's spouse has the primary right of occupancy of the homestead; or
  - (b) Is a partner of a limited partnership, member of a limited liability company or shareholder of a corporation if such entity holds title in fee simple or holds a certificate of motor vehicle title and if the person holds at least a five percent (5%) ownership in such entity, as determined by the county assessor; or
  - (c) Has retained or been granted a life estate.

"Owner" includes a vendee in possession under a land sale contract. Any partial ownership shall be considered as ownership for determining initial qualification for property tax reduction benefits; however, the amount of property tax reduction under section 63-704, Idaho Code, and rules promulgated pursuant to section 63-705, Idaho Code, shall be computed on the value of the claimant's partial ownership. "Partial ownership," for the purposes of this section, means any one (1) person's ownership when property is owned by more than one (1) person or where the homestead is held by an entity, as set forth in this subsection, but more than one (1) person has the right of occupancy of such homestead. A person holding either partial title in fee simple or holding a certificate of motor vehicle title together with another person, but who does not occupy the dwelling as his primary dwelling place, shall not be considered an owner for purposes of this section, if such person is a cosignatory of a note secured by the dwelling in question and at least

- one (1) of the other cosignatories of the note occupies the dwelling as his primary dwelling place. The combined community property interests of both spouses shall not be considered partial ownership as long as the combined community property interests constitute the entire ownership of the homestead, including where the spouses are occupying a homestead owned by an entity, as set forth in this subsection, and the spouses have the primary right of occupancy of the homestead. The proportional reduction required under this subsection shall not apply to community property interests. Where title to property was held by a person who has died without timely filing a claim for property tax reduction, the estate of the deceased person shall be the "owner," provided that the time periods during which the deceased person held such title shall be attributed to the estate for the computation of any time periods under subsection (8) (a) or (b) of this section.
  - (8) (a) "Primary dwelling place" means the claimant's dwelling place on January 1 or before April 15 of the year for which the claim is made. The primary dwelling place is the single place where a claimant has his true, fixed and permanent home and principal establishment, and to which whenever the individual is absent he has the intention of returning. A claimant must establish the dwelling to which the claim relates to be his primary dwelling place by clear and convincing evidence or by establishing that the dwelling is where the claimant resided on January 1 or before April 15 and:
    - (i) At least six (6) months during the prior year; or
    - (ii) The majority of the time the claimant owned the dwelling if owned by the claimant less than one (1) year; or
    - (iii) The majority of the time after the claimant first occupied the dwelling if occupied by the claimant for less than one (1) year. The county assessor may require written or other proof of the foregoing in such form as the county assessor may determine.
  - Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) of this subsection, the property upon which the claimant makes application shall be deemed to be the claimant's primary dwelling place if the claimant is otherwise qualified and resides in a care facility and does not allow the property upon which the claimant has made application to be occupied by persons paying a consideration to occupy the dwelling. Payment of utilities shall not be payment of a consideration to occupy the dwelling. A claimant's spouse who resides in a care facility shall be deemed to reside at the claimant's primary dwelling place and to be a part of the claimant's household. A care facility is a hospital, nursing facility or intermediate care facility for people with intellectual disabilities as defined in section 39-1301, Idaho Code, or a facility as defined in section  $39-3302\frac{(16)}{1}$ , Idaho Code, or a dwelling other than the one upon which the applicant makes application where a claimant who is unable to reside in the dwelling upon which the application is made lives and receives help in daily living, protection and security.

SECTION 23. The rules contained in IDAPA 16.03.22, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, relating to Residential Assisted Living Facilities, Section 001., Subsection 05.; Section 130.; Section 152., Subsection 03.b.; Section 215.; Section 300.; Section 550.; and Section 560. shall be null, void, and of no force and effect after July 1, 2025.

SECTION 24. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after July 1, 2025.