



H.649/S.380 - An Act to Improve Massachusetts Home Care

Introduced by: Representative Thomas Stanley,

Representative Michael Moran and Senator Patricia Jehlen

Currently, Massachusetts **does not** license non-medical home care services. These services are essential to the Commonwealth's long-term services and supports system and allow individuals to remain safely in their residence.

The Home Care Alliance of Massachusetts supports the creation of a licensure system that would establish baseline standards for agencies, to ensure a quality network of providers for consumers and keeping services affordable for those who rely on them.

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Authorizes the Department of Elder Affairs to establish a licensure system which will:

- Require any agency or entity providing home care services to acquire a license
- Authorize the Secretary of EOHHS, in consultation with EOEA and DPH to develop regulations
- Authorize the department the ability to conduct surveys and investigations to enforce compliance
- Promulgate regulations related to:
 - Background screening check requirements for all home care workers
 - Minimum standards for consumer-specific service plans
 - Training and Competency requirements for agency staff
 - Minimum coverage requirements for workers comp. & liability insurance
 - Policies and procedures to ensure home care workers have safe working conditions, adequate training and a process for submitting complaints
 - Maintenance of a payroll process that follows all state and federal labor and wage laws

This bill was discussed and developed with input from a variety of stakeholder engagements and built off a Home Care Licensure Commission report (as established by the legislature).

Co-Sponsor H.649/S.380, An Act to Improve Massachusetts Home Care

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