

**House File 549 - Reprinted**

HOUSE FILE 549  
BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN  
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 140)

(As Amended and Passed by the House March 9, 2021)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to regulatory provisions applicable to care  
2 provided in health care facilities and assisted living  
3 programs.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 135C.34, Code 2021, is amended to read  
2 as follows:

3 **135C.34 Medication aide — certification.**

4 The department of inspections and appeals, in cooperation  
5 with other appropriate agencies, shall establish a procedure to  
6 ~~allow~~ recognize the credentials of a person who is certified as  
7 a medication aide in another state to become certified in this  
8 state upon completion and passage of both the certified nurse  
9 aide and certified medication aide challenge examinations,  
10 without additional requirements for certification, including  
11 but not limited to, completion and passage of both the  
12 certified nurse aide competency examination and the certified  
13 medication aide challenge examination or required employment  
14 in this state prior to certification, if upon the request of  
15 the person seeking certification, the department determines  
16 that the other state in which the person is certified has  
17 substantially similar certification requirements. The  
18 department shall adopt rules pursuant to **chapter 17A** to  
19 administer **this section**.

20 Sec. 2. MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION BY NURSING STUDENTS AND  
21 GRADUATE NURSES IN NURSING FACILITIES. The department of  
22 inspections and appeals, in cooperation with other appropriate  
23 agencies, shall adopt or amend rules pursuant to chapter  
24 17A to allow a nursing student or a graduate nurse with an  
25 appropriate level of training to administer medications if  
26 the nursing facility documents that the nursing facility has  
27 implemented training and supervision measures to ensure the  
28 nursing student's or graduate nurse's competency in safe  
29 medication administration. The rules shall not require the  
30 nursing student or graduate nurse to complete a medication  
31 course or challenge examination if the nursing facility meets  
32 such requirements.

33 Sec. 3. CERTIFIED NURSE AIDE TRAINING — RECIPROCITY. The  
34 department of inspections and appeals shall adopt or amend  
35 rules pursuant to chapter 17A to recognize a person who is

1 a nurse aide in another state and is able to demonstrate  
2 competency in skills and techniques necessary to care for the  
3 needs of residents in nursing facilities as required by 42  
4 C.F.R. §483.35(c) and (d)(1)(k) to become certified in this  
5 state without additional requirements for certification. The  
6 rules shall provide for such persons to complete the direct  
7 care worker registry application and to be included in the  
8 direct care worker registry maintained by the department.

9     Sec. 4. ASSISTED LIVING PROGRAM MANAGER WHO IS ALSO A  
10 LICENSED NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATOR. The department of  
11 inspections and appeals shall amend the administrative rules  
12 pursuant to chapter 17A relating to an assisted living program  
13 manager to allow a new assisting living program manager who  
14 is currently licensed as a nursing home administrator to  
15 complete any required assisted living management class within  
16 twelve months of employment rather than within six months of  
17 employment.