

February 15, 2007

H 248. ACH STAR RATING AUTHORIZATION/FUNDS. Filed 2/15/07. *TO AUTHORIZE THE MEDICAL CARE COMMISSION TO ADOPT RULES ALLOWING THE ISSUANCE OF STAR-RATED CERTIFICATES TO ADULT CARE HOMES, AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DIVISION OF FACILITY SERVICES, FOR ADDITIONAL POSITIONS AND DATABASE ENHANCEMENT TO SUPPORT THE PROGRAM, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA STUDY COMMISSION ON AGING.* Amends GS 131D-4.5 to authorize the Medical Care Commission to adopt rules for issuing star-rated certificates to adult care homes. Provides criteria for establishing a rating system for adult care homes that awards a one- to five-star rating to the facility. Appropriates \$153,000 for 2007-08 and \$108,000 for 2008-09 from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Facility Services, to implement, staff, and support the star rating program. Appropriation becomes effective July 1, 2007. Requires the issuance of star-rated certificates beginning January 1, 2009.

Intro. by Bordsen, Earle.

GS 131D, APPROP

June 7, 2007

H 248. ACH RATED CERTIFICATE AUTHORIZATION/FUNDS (NEW). Filed 2/15/07. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Modifies proposed GS 131D-4.5(9) to remove the requirement that the adult care home certificates issued pursuant to rules adopted by the Medical Care Commission be star-rated and instead requires a rating based on inspections and substantiated complaint investigations to determine compliance with licensing statutes and rules. Lists specific areas that must be reviewed. Also deletes other criteria that the star-rated certificates were to be based on. Provides that a facility's initial ratings must be based on inspections, imposed penalties, and investigation of substantiated complaints that occurred on or after the act becomes law. Establishes how long penalties affect ratings and requirements for reevaluations when there is a change in ownership. Requires adult care homes to post the ratings certificate in a location that is visible to the public and to maintain a copy of information provided by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Facility Services (DFS), regarding the facility rating. Also lists information that must be available on DFS's website and in materials maintained at the facility. Prohibits the proposed rules from taking effect until DHHS has reported on the rules to the North Carolina Study Commission on Aging (Commission), which must take place by January 1, 2008. Also requires DFS to study the structure and cost of a system to reward adult care homes receiving high ratings and the development of a quality improvement program to provide facilities with low ratings with technical assistance to report to the Commission by March 1, 2008. The Division and the Division of Aging and Adult Services must study expanding the rated certificate system to other facilities and services and report to the Commission by October 1, 2009. Also requires DFS to make an interim report on the implementation of the rated certificate system to the Commission by October 1, 2009, and a final report by October 1, 2010. Makes a conforming title change.