

1 H.698

2 Introduced by Representatives French of Randolph, Mrowicki of Putney and
3 Pugh of South Burlington

4 Referred to Committee on

5 Date:

6 Subject: Human services; long-term care; licensing; adult protective services

7 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to require an independent evaluation
8 of Vermont's adult protective services program and to require the department
9 of disabilities, aging, and independent living to conduct annual inspections of
10 all residential care homes.

11 An act relating to services for Vermont seniors

12 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

13 Sec. 1. 33 V.S.A. § 7108(f) is added to read:

14 (f) Except as otherwise required by federal law, the licensing agency shall
15 conduct an unannounced inspection of each facility licensed pursuant to this
16 chapter at least annually.

17 Sec. 2. ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES EVALUATION

18 (a) No later than September 1, 2010, the agency of human services shall
19 issue a request for proposals to conduct an independent evaluation of the adult

1 protective services provided by the department of disabilities, aging, and
2 independent living's division of licensing and protection.

3 (b) The evaluation shall examine:

4 (1) the effectiveness of the adult protective services provided;

5 (2) the division's responsiveness to complaints;

6 (3) the appropriateness of the level of investigation into complaints;

7 (4) the adequacy of training for adult protective services staff;

8 (5) the ability of vulnerable adults to access adult protective services;

9 (6) the division's rules, protocols, and practices for prioritizing,
10 responding to, and investigating complaints;

11 (7) the sufficiency of adult protective services staffing levels in the
12 division;

13 (8) the number of reports, substantiations, and reversals by the
14 commissioner or the human services board;

15 (9) the role that the division does or should play in assessing and
16 providing emergency protective services to vulnerable adults;

17 (10) best practices from other states that would improve the division's
18 ability to protect vulnerable adults from abuse and exploitation;

19 (11) the scope and effectiveness of current adult protective services
20 public education efforts;

1 (12) public perception of and satisfaction with adult protective services;

2 and

3 (13) such other areas as the entity conducting the evaluation deems

4 appropriate.

5 (c) No later than January 15, 2012, the entity conducting the evaluation

6 shall report its findings and recommendations to the house committee on

7 human services and the senate committee on health and welfare.

8 Sec. 3. FUNDING

9 No later than July 1, 2010, the agency of human services shall seek federal

10 and private funding sources for the adult protective services evaluation

11 authorized by this act.