

AN ACT

relating to quality-of-care monitoring visits to long-term care facilities.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subdivision (1), Section 255.001, Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(1) "Department" means the ~~[Texas]~~ Department of Aging and Disability ~~[Human]~~ Services.

SECTION 2. Subsections (a) and (f), Section 255.003, Health and Safety Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The department shall establish regional offices with one or more quality-of-care monitors, based on the number of long-term care facilities in the region, to monitor the facilities in the region on a regular, ~~[unannounced,]~~ aperiodic basis, including nights, evenings, weekends, and holidays. A monitoring visit conducted under this chapter may be announced or unannounced.

(f) The quality-of-care monitor shall include in a monitoring ~~[an assessment]~~ visit:

(1) observation of the care and services rendered to residents; and

(2) formal and informal interviews with residents, family members, facility staff, resident guests, volunteers, other regulatory staff, and representatives of a human rights advocacy committee.

1 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 874 passed the Senate on April 14, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 28, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 874 passed the House, with amendment, on May 25, 2005, by a non-record vote.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor