

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1006**

Introduced by Aguilar, 35; Johnson, 37.

Read first time January 16, 2008

Committee: Health and Human Services

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to in-home personal services; to provide for a  
2 statewide registry; to require a study of wages; and to  
3 require reports.  
4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1. For purposes of this act:

2           (1) Activities of daily living has the definition found  
3 in section 71-6602;

4           (2) Attendant services means services provided to  
5 nonmedically fragile persons, including hands-on assistance  
6 with activities of daily living, transfer, grooming, medication  
7 reminders, and similar activities;

8           (3) Companion services means the provision of  
9 companionship and assistance with letter writing, reading, and  
10 similar activities;

11           (4) Homemaker services means assistance with household  
12 tasks, including, but not limited to, housekeeping, personal  
13 laundry, shopping, incidental transportation, and meals; and

14           (5) In-home personal services means attendant services,  
15 companion services, and homemaker services that do not require  
16 the exercise of medical or nursing judgment provided to a person  
17 in his or her residence to enable the person to remain safe and  
18 comfortable in such residence.

19           Sec. 2. In order to assist the public in obtaining  
20 in-home personal services, the Department of Health and Human  
21 Services shall establish a statewide registry of in-home personal  
22 services workers who provide in-home personal services. The  
23 department shall include information for each worker regarding  
24 contact information, the geographical area in which the worker  
25 provides services, and the experience, education, and training

1 history related to in-home personal services. The department shall  
2 make the registry available electronically and by other means  
3 upon request. The department shall request such information from  
4 in-home personal services workers whose addresses are known to the  
5 department, and in-home personal services workers may contact the  
6 department to be placed on the registry. Placement on the registry  
7 shall be voluntary. The department shall adopt and promulgate  
8 rules and regulations to create such registry and provide for its  
9 operation. The department shall prepare and submit a report to the  
10 Legislature regarding the registry by July 1, 2009.

11           Sec. 3. The Department of Health and Human Services shall  
12 conduct a study of wages paid to in-home personal services workers  
13 who provide in-home personal services in Nebraska as compared with  
14 in-home personal services workers in other surrounding states and  
15 shall include in the study a comparison regarding wages paid to  
16 in-home personal services workers with various levels of training  
17 and experience. The department shall prepare a plan to increase the  
18 wage levels of in-home personal services workers paid by the state  
19 to attract and encourage the retention of in-home personal services  
20 workers in Nebraska. The department shall prepare and submit a  
21 report to the Legislature regarding the study and plan by July 1,  
22 2009. The report shall include the methodology used in the study  
23 and the results of the study.