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FLOOR DEBATE

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social setting within the nursing facilities that will help and enhance the residence. New definitions are added in the Section 71-6038 for complicated feeding problems, nursing home, and paid dining assistant. Paid dining assistants must be at least 16 years old, be able to speak and understand the English language or language understood by the resident being served by the assistant, have successfully completed a course of training prescribed by the department, have no adverse findings on the Nurse Aide Registry or the Adult Protective Services Central Registry, and has also no adverse findings on the central registry created under 28-718 if the nursing home employing the assistant has more than...more than one resident under the age of 19. Paid dining assistants may only feed residents who have no complicated feeding problems, work under the supervision of a licensed registered practical nurse who is at the nursing home and immediately available, and must call a supervisor in help in case there's an emergency. The amendment requires a nursing home to base its selection of a resident who may be assisted by a paid dining assistant at any meal on the resident's latest assessment and plan of care, and the charge nurse's determination that the resident's condition at the time of meal meets that plan of care. The amendment permits the department to prescribe a curriculum for training paid dining assistants, and rules and regulations to such courses. Nursing homes may carry out approved courses of training and competency evaluation programs within the nursing home. The prescribed training must be administered by a licensed registered nurse. The amendment requires the department to maintain a paid dining assistant registry. The amendment requires each nursing home that employs a paid dining assistant to maintain a record of such assistant's verification successful completion of training course for each assistant, verification of having made checks of the Nurse Aide Registry and the Adult Protective Services Central Registry, or the center registry created in Section 28-718, if applicable. The nursing home must maintain verification in its record of absence of such adverse findings. The amendment does contain an emergency clause. With that, I would ask for adoption, Mr. President, of this amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. You've heard the opening on AM2835. Mr. Clerk, for an announcement.