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FLOOR DEBATE

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to go to...go through 30 hours of training to be an assisted-living administrator, with the expense of it, which would probably be a sizeable expense, that would have to come out of their pocket, you know, prior to being hired by the assisted-living organization. Maybe they would only be an administrator for a little while. So these are the things that really do concern me, you know. Are we going to put an additional burden onto the people that want to be administrators? Or how...you know, this concerns me. And maybe it needs to be addressed in another way. But I think I would have liked to see some of the regulations or the guidelines spelled out, you know, what the HHS is going to request of this, instead of just the 30 hours.

SENATOR JENSEN: Well, Senator Stuthman, first of all, this was brought to us by the Assisted-Living Association, or those nursing homes who do have assisted-living. And if anyone does have prior experience, current administrators are exempt from the initial training requirements, so they're exempted. I would certainly think if you were going to employ one of these individuals, perhaps the employer might help with some of that expense. Certainly they want people that will...that are going to be there for a long period of time. They want to ensure the residents that they have individuals there who have the proper training also. So it's a safety factor. But I would hope that this would not be burdensome, either on the applicant or on the nursing home, either one. Like I said, it was brought to us by the association, who felt that this was something that needed to be in there.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Okay. Thank you, Senator Jensen. I return the balance of my time to the Chair.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Stuthman. Next speaker is Senator Jensen. Senator Jensen waives. All right, the question is the adoption of the Jensen amendment. All those in favor please vote aye, those opposed nay. Senator Jensen.

SENATOR JENSEN: Yes. I'm sorry, but I'm afraid we're going to have to have a call of the house, please. And I'll take call-in votes, Mr. Chairman.