

HOUSE BILL NO. 244

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES UNDERWOOD, Costello, Fields, Frier, Tomaszewski, Mina, Josephson, Story, McCabe

Introduced: 1/20/26

Referred: Health and Social Services, Labor and Commerce

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to certified nurse aide training; and providing for an effective date."**

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 *** Section 1.** AS 08.68.331 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

4 (c) Regulations adopted under (a)(1) of this section establishing standards for
5 a certified nurse aide training program must require that the program

6 (1) be conducted in a manner to ensure that clients receive safe and
7 competent care; and

8 (2) train a certified nurse aide to

9 (A) form a relationship, communicate, and interact competently
10 with a client;

11 (B) demonstrate sensitivity to the emotional, social, and mental
12 health needs of a client through skillful and directed interactions;

13 (C) assist a client in reaching and maintaining independence;

14 (D) support and promote the rights of a client;

15 (E) demonstrate the skills of observing and monitoring a client

1 during caregiving, as well as reporting those observations to enable the
2 assessment of the health, physical condition, and well-being of a client;

3 (F) demonstrate knowledge of the abilities and care needs of a
4 client;

5 (G) use a problem-solving approach when providing care;

6 (H) use techniques that ensure and preserve the respect, values,
7 choices, and dignity of a client;

8 (I) demonstrate knowledge of client assessment and care
9 planning best practices;

10 (J) use effective communication skills, including while
11 communicating with a client with psychosocial needs or Alzheimer's disease,
12 dementia, a mental illness, an intellectual disability, or another cognitive
13 disability or impairment;

14 (K) provide care to a client who is cognitively impaired or has
15 a decline in cognitive function related to dementia; and

16 (L) demonstrate basic knowledge of Alzheimer's disease,
17 dementia, dementia-related behaviors, and the activities of daily living; in this
18 subparagraph, "activities of daily living" means eating, dressing, grooming,
19 bathing, and toileting.

20 * **Sec. 2.** This Act takes effect January 1, 2027.