



H.4706/S.2555 - An Act to Improve Massachusetts Home Care *Introduced by: Representative Thomas Stanley & Senator Patricia Jehlezn*

Currently, Massachusetts **does not** license non-medical home care services. These services are essential to the Commonwealth's long-term services and supports system and allow individuals to remain safely in their residences.

The Enough Pay to Stay Coalition supports the creation of a licensure system that would establish baseline standards for agencies to ensure a quality network of providers for consumers and keep services affordable for those who rely on them.

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Authorizes the Department of Aging & Independence to establish a licensure system which will:

- Require any agency or entity providing home care services to acquire a license
- Authorize the Secretary of EOHHS, in consultation with AGE and DPH to develop regulations
- Authorize the department to conduct surveys and investigations to enforce compliance
- Promulgate regulations related to:
 - Background screening check requirements for all home care workers
 - Minimum standards for consumer-specific service plans
 - Training and competency requirements for agency staff
 - Minimum coverage requirements for workers compensation & liability insurance
 - Policies and procedures to ensure home care workers have safe working conditions, adequate training and a process for submitting complaints
 - Requirements and processes for the reporting of consumer complaints
 - Adequate background screening check requirements for all home care workers
 - Maintenance of a payroll process that follows all state and federal labor and wage laws

This bill was developed with input from a variety of stakeholder engagements and drafted based on a Home Care Licensure Commission report (as established by the legislature). **Urge Senate Leadership to Advance H. 4306/S.2555, An Act to Improve Massachusetts Home Care.**



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