

SENATE BILL NO. 32

INTRODUCED BY T. SCHMIDT

BY REQUEST OF THE CHILDREN, FAMILIES, HEALTH, AND HUMAN SERVICES INTERIM COMMITTEE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE LOCAL OR LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN TO ENTER A LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY AT ANY TIME NECESSARY TO PERFORM THE OMBUDSMAN'S DUTIES; AND AMENDING SECTION 52-3-604, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 52-3-604, MCA, is amended to read:

"52-3-604. Access to long-term care facilities. (1) The long-term care ombudsman or local ombudsman ~~shall~~ must have access without advance notice to any long-term care facility, including private access to any resident, for the purpose of meeting with residents, investigating and resolving complaints, and advising residents on their rights.

(2) Access must be granted to the long-term care ombudsman or local ombudsman ~~during normal visiting hours (9 a.m. to 6 p.m.) and to the long-term care ombudsman~~ at any time ~~he considers~~ that either of them considers necessary to perform the duties described in 52-3-603.

(3) The ombudsman shall carry out the duties described in 52-3-603 in a manner that is least disruptive to resident care and activities."

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