

HB 897 with HCA 1 -- NURSING HOME INSPECTIONS

SPONSOR: Hubrecht

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 8 to 4 with 1 present.

This bill prohibits an inspection of a nursing home by a political subdivision for compliance with local ordinances except for those pertaining to drainage, wastewater, utilities, subdivision, and zoning ordinances.

HCA 1: Authorizes the state fire marshal to designate a local fire agency to conduct fire inspections

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that nursing homes are regulated by the state and the state conducts all inspections. This bill insures that localities can't enforce local codes.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Hubrecht; Bruce Hillis; and Robert Lewis Scott, Scott Electric.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that it is necessary for the state fire marshal and local fire districts to coordinate in case there is a fire in a home. Local health inspectors believe they should be allowed to conduct inspections to insure public safety.

Testifying against the bill were Russell K. Mason, Central County Fire & Rescue and Janet Murray, Randolph County Health Dept.