CHAPTER 1

[House Bill No. 1260]

MINIMUM WAGES FOR CERTAIN NURSING HOME EMPLOYEES

AN ACT Relating to minimum wages for low wage earner nursing home employees; amending RCW 74.46.430; amending section 207, chapter 7, Laws of 1987 1st ex. sess. (uncodified); and declaring an emergency.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Sec. 1. Section 207, chapter 7, Laws of 1987 1st ex. sess. (uncodified) is amended to read as follows:

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES—LONG-TERM CARE SERVICES

General Fund Appropriation—State ............... $ (326,546,000)

327,946,000

General Fund Appropriation—Federal .......... $ (331,586,000)

333,186,000

Total Appropriation .......................... $ (658,132,000)

661,132,000

The appropriations in this section are subject to the following conditions and limitations:

(1) The department shall provide an integrated system of long-term care services which will allow for the most efficient, equitable, and appropriate use of available resources. The department shall endeavor to provide these services in the least restrictive and most cost-effective manner appropriate for individual clients.

(2) Vendor rate increases shall average 2.0 percent on September 1, 1987, and 4.0 percent on September 1, 1988, for the adult residential care, contracted chore, adult day health, and senior citizens services act programs.

(3) $3,000,000 of which $1,400,000 is from the general fund—state appropriation is provided solely for nonadministrative wages and benefits enhancements above the money necessary to fund the minimum wage.

(4) Department—contracted nursing homes shall provide for and assure payment of compensation for staff of no less than $4.76 per hour beginning January 1, 1988, and $5.15 per hour beginning January 1, 1989.

(5) Nursing home rates shall be adjusted for inflation under RCW 74.46.495 by 3.7 percent on July 1, 1987 and 3.6 percent on July 1, 1988.

(6) $650,000, of which $312,000 is from the general fund—state appropriation, is provided solely for laundry services to state clients residing in skilled nursing facilities and intermediate care facilities.
Grant payment standards shall be increased by 2.0 percent on September 1, 1987 and 4.0 percent on September 1, 1989, for adult residential care clients.

$1,090,000 of the general fund—state appropriation is provided solely for the respite care demonstration project.

At least $14,766,000 of the general fund—state appropriation shall be initially allotted for implementation of the senior citizens services act. At least 7 percent of the amount allotted for the senior citizens services act in each fiscal year shall be used for programs that utilize volunteer workers for the provision of chore services to persons whose need for chore services is not being met by the chore services program.

Sec. 2. Section 43, chapter 177, Laws of 1980 as last amended by section 2, chapter 476, Laws of 1987 and RCW 74.46.430 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) The department, as provided by this chapter, will determine prospective cost-related reimbursement rates for services provided to medical care recipients. Each rate so determined shall represent the contractor's maximum compensation within each cost center for each patient day for such medical care recipient.

(2) As required, the department may modify such maximum per patient day rates pursuant to the administrative review provisions of RCW 74.46.780.

(3) Until the effective date of RCW 74.46.510 and 74.46.530, the maximum prospective reimbursement rates for the administration and operations and the property cost centers shall be established based upon a minimum facility occupancy level of eighty-five percent.

(4) On and after the effective date of RCW 74.46.510 and 74.46.530, the maximum prospective reimbursement rates for the administration and operations and the property cost centers and the return on investment allowance shall be established based upon a minimum facility occupancy level of eighty-five percent.

(5) All contractors shall be required to adjust and maintain wages for all employees to a minimum hourly wage established by the legislature in the biennial appropriations act, if the legislature appropriates moneys to fund prospectively the portion of the minimum wage attributable to services to medicaid patients. Prospective rate revisions to fund any minimum wage increases shall be made only on the dates authorized in the appropriation act. ((A portion of this legislative appropriation shall be used to enhance nonadministrative wages and benefits above the moneys necessary to fund the minimum wage specified in this section.)) The department shall by regulation limit reimbursement to the amount appropriated for legislatively authorized enhancement for nonadministrative wages and benefits above the moneys necessary to fund minimum wages specified in this section. The department in considering reimbursement for legislatively authorized wage
enhancements will take into consideration facility wage history over the past three cost report periods.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately.

Approved by the Governor August 11, 1987.
Filed in Office of Secretary of State August 11, 1987.

CHAPTER 2
[House Bill No. 1261]
CHORE SERVICES AND COMMUNITY OPTIONS PROGRAM ENTRY SYSTEM FUNDING

AN ACT Relating to long term care; amending section 207, chapter 7, Laws of 1987 1st ex. sess. (uncodified); and declaring an emergency.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Sec. 1. Section 207, chapter 7, Laws of 1987 1st ex. sess. (uncodified) is amended to read as follows:

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES—LONG-TERM CARE SERVICES

General Fund Appropriation—State $326,546,000

General Fund Appropriation—Federal $331,586,000

Total Appropriation $662,632,000

The appropriations in this section are subject to the following conditions and limitations:

(1) The department shall provide an integrated system of long-term care services which will allow for the most efficient, equitable, and appropriate use of available resources. The department shall endeavor to provide these services in the least restrictive and most cost-effective manner appropriate for individual clients.

(2) Vendor rate increases shall average 2.0 percent on September 1, 1987, and 4.0 percent on September 1, 1988, for the adult residential care, contracted chore, adult day health, and senior citizens services act programs.

(3) $3,000,000 of the general fund—state appropriation, and $1,500,000 of the general fund—federal appropriation, are provided solely to increase the number of persons served in the chore services program.