

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1396**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Simitian**

February 21, 2003

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An act to add Section 9719.6 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to long-term care.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1396, as introduced, Simitian. Long-term care ombudsman: funding.

Existing law establishes the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman in the California Department of Aging. Under existing law, the office is responsible for, among other things, investigating and resolving complaints and concerns communicated by or on behalf of patients, residents, or clients of long-term care facilities, as defined. Existing law authorizes the department to allocate all federal and state funds for local ombudsman programs according to a specified distribution schedule.

This bill would require the department to impose a \$3 per bed annual fee on long-term care facilities for the support of local ombudsman programs.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 9719.6 is added to the Welfare and
- 2 Institutions Code, to read:

1 9719.6. In addition to any funds otherwise provided for by  
2 this chapter or any other provision of law, the department shall  
3 impose a three dollar (\$3) per bed annual fee on long-term care  
4 facilities, as defined in Section 9701, for the support of local  
5 ombudsman programs.

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