

**SB 5454 - DIGEST**

Revises the definition of "geriatric behavioral health worker," for purposes of chapter 74.42 RCW (nursing homes--resident care, operating standards), to include a person with a bachelor's or master's degree in social work, behavioral health, or other related areas.

Requires a geriatric behavioral health worker to have a bachelor's or master's degree in social work, behavioral health, or other related areas, in order to qualify for the exception which allows the worker to be recognized in minimum staffing requirements as part of the direct care service delivery to individuals who have a behavioral health condition.