



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

Raised Bill No. 1079

LCO No. 5963



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:
(HS)

AN ACT CONCERNING NURSING HOME FACILITY MINIMUM STAFFING LEVELS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section,
2 (1) "nursing home facility" means a chronic and convalescent nursing
3 home, and (2) "nursing staff" means licensed practical nurses, licensed
4 pursuant to chapter 378 of the general statutes, and registered nurse's
5 aides, registered pursuant to chapter 378a of the general statutes.

6 (b) On and after October 1, 2019, each nursing home facility shall
7 have sufficient nursing staff available on site to maintain a daily
8 minimum staffing ratio of not less than two and three-tenths nursing
9 staff hours per resident.

10 (c) If any nursing home facility experiences increased costs or
11 expenditures due to compliance with the provisions of this section, the
12 Department of Social Services shall adjust such facility's Medicaid rates
13 and provide payment for any such costs or expenditures within a
14 reasonable period of time and retroactive to the date of such increased

15 costs or expenditures.

16 (d) The Commissioner of Public Health shall adopt or amend
17 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the
18 general statutes, to implement the provisions of this section. Such
19 regulations shall include, but need not be limited to, (1) use of data
20 collected by each facility pursuant to federal staff data collection
21 requirements as documentation of the number of nursing staff hours
22 available on site to provide direct care to residents, and (2) a definition
23 of the term "direct care".

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a minimum staffing level for nursing home services.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]