



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2021

LCO No. 9032



Offered by:
SEN. DAUGHERTY ABRAMS, 13th Dist.
REP. STEINBERG, 136th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1030

File No. 457

Cal. No. 281

"AN ACT CONCERNING LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) As used in this section
4 and sections 2 to 11, inclusive, of this act:

5 (1) "Nursing home" means any chronic and convalescent nursing
6 home or any rest home with nursing supervision that provides nursing
7 supervision under a medical director twenty-four hours per day, or any
8 chronic and convalescent nursing home that provides skilled nursing
9 care under medical supervision and direction to carry out nonsurgical
10 treatment and dietary procedures for chronic diseases, convalescent
11 stages, acute diseases or injuries; and

12 (2) "Dementia special care unit" means the unit of any assisted living
13 facility, adult congregate living facility, adult day care center, hospice or
14 adult foster home that locks, secures, segregates or provides a special

15 program or unit for residents with a diagnosis of probable Alzheimer's
16 disease, dementia or other similar disorder, in order to prevent or limit
17 access by a resident outside the designated or separated area, or that
18 advertises or markets the facility, center, hospice or home as providing
19 specialized care or services for persons suffering from Alzheimer's
20 disease or dementia.

21 (b) Each nursing home and dementia special care unit shall employ a
22 full-time infection prevention and control specialist who shall be
23 responsible for the following:

24 (1) Ongoing training of all administrators and employees of the
25 nursing home or dementia special care unit on infection prevention and
26 control using multiple training methods, including, but not limited to,
27 in-person training and the provision of written materials in English and
28 Spanish;

29 (2) The inclusion of information regarding infection prevention and
30 control in the documentation that the nursing home or dementia special
31 care unit provides to residents regarding their rights while in the home
32 or unit and posting of such information in areas visible to residents;

33 (3) Participation as a member of the infection prevention and control
34 committee of the nursing home or dementia special care unit and
35 reporting to such committee at its regular meetings regarding the
36 training he or she has provided pursuant to subdivision (1) of this
37 subsection;

38 (4) The provision of training on infection prevention and control
39 methods to supplemental or replacement staff of the nursing home or
40 dementia special care unit in the event an infectious disease outbreak or
41 other situation reduces the staffing levels of the home or unit; and

42 (5) Any other duties or responsibilities deemed appropriate for the
43 infection prevention and control specialist, as determined by the
44 nursing home or dementia special care unit.

45 (c) Each nursing home and dementia special care unit shall require its
46 infection and control specialist to work on a rotating schedule that
47 ensures the specialist covers each eight-hour shift at least once per
48 month.

49 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) On or before January 1, 2022,
50 the administrative head of each nursing home and each assisted living
51 facility, adult congregate living facility, adult day care center, hospice or
52 adult foster home with a dementia special care unit shall provide its
53 emergency plan of operations to the political subdivision of this state in
54 which it is located for purposes of the development of the emergency
55 plan of operations for such political subdivision of this state required
56 pursuant to the Interstate Mutual Aid Compact made and entered into
57 under section 28-22a of the general statutes.

58 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) The administrative head
59 of each nursing home shall ensure that (1) the home maintains at least a
60 two-month supply of personal protective equipment for its staff, and (2)
61 the personal protective equipment is of various sizes based on the needs
62 of the home's staff. The personal protective equipment shall not be
63 shared amongst the home's staff and may only be reused in accordance
64 with the strategies to optimize personal protective equipment supplies
65 in health care settings published by the National Centers for Disease
66 Control and Prevention. The administrative head of each nursing home
67 shall hold fittings of his or her staff for N95 masks or higher rated masks
68 certified by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health,
69 at a frequency determined by the Department of Public Health.

70 (b) On or before January 1, 2022, the Department of Emergency
71 Management and Homeland Security, in consultation with the
72 Department of Public Health, shall establish a process to evaluate,
73 provide feedback on, approve and distribute personal protective
74 equipment for use by nursing homes in a public health emergency.

75 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) The administrative head of
76 each nursing home shall ensure that there is at least one staff member

77 or contracted professional licensed or certified to start an intravenous
78 line who is available on-call during each shift to start an intravenous
79 line.

80 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) Each nursing home's infection
81 prevention and control committee shall meet (1) at least monthly, and
82 (2) during an outbreak of an infectious disease, daily, provided daily
83 meetings do not cause a disruption to the operations of the nursing
84 home, in which case the committee shall meet at least weekly. The
85 prevention and control committee shall be responsible for establishing
86 infection prevention and control protocols for the nursing home and
87 monitoring the nursing home's infection prevention and control
88 specialist. Not less than annually and after every outbreak of an
89 infectious disease in the nursing home, the prevention and control
90 committee shall evaluate (A) the implementation and analyze the
91 outcome of such protocols, and (B) whether the infection prevention and
92 control specialist is satisfactorily performing his or her responsibilities
93 under subsection (b) of section 1 of this act.

94 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) Each nursing home shall,
95 during an outbreak of an infectious disease, test staff and residents of
96 the nursing home for the infectious disease at a frequency determined
97 by the Department of Public Health as appropriate based on the
98 circumstances surrounding the outbreak and the impact of testing on
99 controlling the outbreak.

100 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) On or before January 1, 2022,
101 the administrative head of each nursing home and dementia special care
102 unit shall encourage the establishment of a family council and assist in
103 any such establishment. The family council shall facilitate and support
104 open communication between the nursing home or dementia special
105 care unit and each resident's family members and friends. As used in
106 this section, "family council" means an independent, self-determining
107 group of the family members and friends of the residents of a nursing
108 home or dementia special care unit that is geared to meeting the needs
109 and interests of the residents and their family members and friends.

110 Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) On or before January 1,
111 2022, the administrative head of each nursing home shall ensure that
112 each resident's care plan includes the following:

113 (1) Measures to address the resident's social, emotional and mental
114 health needs, including, but not limited to, opportunities for social
115 connection and strategies to minimize isolation;

116 (2) Visitation protocols and any other information relevant to
117 visitation that shall be written in plain language and in a form that may
118 be reasonably understood by the resident and the resident's family
119 members and friends; and

120 (3) Information on the role of the Office of the Long-Term Care
121 Ombudsman established under section 17a-405 of the general statutes
122 including, but not limited to, the contact information for said office.

123 (b) On or before January 1, 2022, the administrative head of each
124 nursing home shall ensure that its staff is educated regarding (1) best
125 practices for addressing the social, emotional and mental health needs
126 of residents, and (2) all components of person-centered care.

127 Sec. 9. (*Effective from passage*) On or before October 1, 2021, the Public
128 Health Preparedness Advisory Committee established pursuant to
129 section 19a-131g of the general statutes shall amend the plan for
130 emergency responses to a public health emergency prepared pursuant
131 to said section to include a plan for emergency responses to a public
132 health emergency in relation to nursing homes and dementia special
133 care units and providers of community-based services to residents of
134 such homes and units.

135 Sec. 10. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) On or before January 1,
136 2022, the Department of Public Health shall (1) establish minimum
137 staffing level requirements for nursing homes of at least three hours of
138 direct care per resident per day, and (2) modify staffing level
139 requirements for social work and recreational staff of nursing homes
140 such that the requirements (A) for social work are one full-time social

141 worker per sixty residents, and (B) for recreational staff are lower than
 142 the current requirements, as deemed appropriate by the Commissioner
 143 of Public Health.

144 (b) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with the
 145 provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes that set forth nursing
 146 home staffing level requirements to implement the provisions of this
 147 section.

148 Sec. 11. (*Effective from passage*) The Department of Public Health shall
 149 seek any federal or state funds available for improvements to the
 150 infrastructure of nursing homes in the state. Not later than January 1,
 151 2022, the Commissioner of Public Health shall report, in accordance
 152 with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, regarding
 153 the commissioner's success in accessing such federal or state funds
 154 available for infrastructure improvement to the joint standing
 155 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
 156 relating to public health."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	New section
Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>	New section