



From: [Rick Barley](#)
To: [DH.LTCRegs](#)
Cc: advocacy@phca.org
Subject: [External] Re: Rulemaking 10-221 (Long-Term Care Facilities, Proposed Rulemaking 1)
Date: Monday, August 2, 2021 11:29:13 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

***ATTENTION:** This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown sources. To report suspicious email, forward the message as an attachment to CWOPA_SPAM@pa.gov.*

August 2, 2021

Department of Health
625 Forster St,
Harrisburg, PA 17120
Attn: Lori Gutierrez, Deputy Secretary
Office of Policy

Re: Rulemaking 10-221 (Long-Term Care Facilities, Proposed Rulemaking 1)

To Whom it May Concern,

Please accept this letter of comment on the recently proposed rule, "Department of Health, Title 28. Health and Safety, Part IV. Health Facilities, Subpart C. Long Term Care Facilities, 28 Pa. Code §§201.1-201.3: 211.12(i), Long Term Care Nursing Facilities".

This letter is being sent on behalf of the residents and direct care staff of Providence Place Senior Living. Our company has roughly 900 beds in total and 7 locations across central Pennsylvania. We employ 600 employees and provide services to about 650 residents.

We have grave concerns regarding the amendments of the regulation to increase the required minimum number of hours of general nursing care from 2.7 to 4.1 hours of direct resident care for each resident residing in a nursing facility. Even though, as a company operating both Assisted Livings and Personal Care Homes in Pennsylvania, our company is not directly impacted by the proposed provisions, we are concerned that there will be unintended consequences to the other providers in the long-term care continuum.

Hiring in healthcare is a tremendous struggle right now for every single provider. I would ask you to try it sometime at a provider to see for yourself. Recruiting, retention, turnover makes keeping the current staffing levels very difficult. Raising the staffing level requirement to 4.1 would make it nearly impossible. I don't think you understand what you are requiring providers to do. As you know, we don't rely on Medicaid money in AL/PC to survive, but we struggle to hire and retain as is, especially during Covid. I can't imagine the strain that 4.1 would place on our fellow long-term care providers, and frankly I doubt that they would be able to find staff to hit that mark. I also don't believe it would be an intentional effort on their part, it just wouldn't be possible in this current climate. A huge majority of providers as well as workers want what is best for our residents, workers, and families. 4.1 is a great soundbite, but it is just not possible. Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,
Rick Barley

Rick Barley RN, BSN, MBA

Chief Operating Officer

Providence Place Senior Living

1528 Sand Hill Road

Hummelstown, PA 17036

Ph: 717-520-0330

Cell: 717-676-5942

rbarley@prov-place.com



Please Note: This e-mail transmission, including any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the individual(s) or organization(s) to which it is addressed. The information in this e-mail, including attachments, may be confidential and/or privileged. If you are not a designated recipient, you are prohibited from reviewing, using, copying or distributing this message unless you receive express permission, in writing, from the sender or the designated recipient. If you received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender by reply e-mail and delete this e-mail from your system without copying it.