



## Proposed Nursing Home Regulations

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**From:** Julie M. Wetzel <JWetzel@masonicvillages.org>  
**Sent:** 08/11/2021 at 01:23 PM  
**To:** RA-DHLTCRegs@pa.gov  
**Cc:**

To Whom It May Concern:

As a Director of Nursing in a 128 bed SNF/LTC, I am greatly concerned at the multiple proposed changes in nursing home regulations. While I am fully in favor of a nursing staff ratio of 4.1 PPD, I challenge the powers that be to explain how it is thought facilities can achieve this with the current state of nursing in general?

I'd encourage other departments, particularly music therapists, to somehow be factored in to this calculation due to the extensive intervention they provide to residents. Additionally, in order to meet these new requirements, I request some sort of governmental incentive for individuals to enter the field of healthcare; for example drastically decreased or forgiven tuition and training expenses would be a start. Some sort of compensation/tax break for retention in the field would also possibly be effective.

Please, consider these concerns I'm sure I'm not alone in. At minimum do give all of us in the field time to attempt location, onboarding, and adequate training for the large number of healthcare workers we will need. Upwards of a year to fully and safely implement these increases across the state seems reasonable to achieve. Otherwise I fear we will lose facilities in the process that we sorely need in PA's rapidly aging population.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance. We sorely need it.

*Julie Wetzel*, RN, WCC

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