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**To:** [DH.LTCRegs](#)  
**Subject:** [External] DOH PROPOSED NURSING FACILITY REGS. PUB. IN Pa Bulletin, July 31, 2021  
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I am a member of a retirement community, Woodcrest Villa, in Lancaster, Pa.  
I am writing to comment on the proposed increased requirements from 2.7 Nursing Hours per resident day to 4.1 NHPRD.  
1-Pa has not provided an increase in Medical Assistant Rates for 7 years. The costs of care, however, continue to increase.  
2-Despite increasing wages, we are facing the worst nursing shortage in ages. It remains a struggle to recruit nurses. If this regulation is passed without increased Medical Assistance Rates, private resident rates will need to be increased. Thus, more persons will be disqualified from admission and increased spend-down will further deplete resources.  
Additional personnel also figure in the care of residents, such as therapists and PT and OT persons, and need to be compensated.  
The gap between what is paid through Medical Assistance and true costs of care is currently \$200. This puts more and more strain on the resident needing help. How long can they afford it?  
Please reconsider and help!  
Rev. Bob Hannum, (Retired.)