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**To:** [DH, LTCRegs](#); [irrc@irrc.state.pa.us](mailto:irrc@irrc.state.pa.us)  
**Subject:** [External] Rulemaking 10-221 (Long-Term Care Facilities, Proposed Rulemaking)  
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To Whom It May Concern,

As a granddaughter of a current skilled nursing facility resident, I fully **SUPPORT** the increase of direct care hours from 2.7 to 4.1 hours per resident per day as proposed by Acting Secretary Beam and the Pennsylvania Department of Health on July 21, 2021. I applaud Governor Wolf and his Administration for updating the nursing home regulations, as this is long overdue and much need.

Residents can be harmed physically, emotionally, and decline faster when there isn't enough staff to care for all of the residents and their individual needs. 4.1 hours of direct care is a great starting point to address quality of care and is the minimum number of hours that the federal government has said is needed to **AVOID HARM**.

I commend the 88 skilled nursing facilities in Pennsylvania that are already providing 4.1 direct care hours per resident per day, so as these facilities have demonstrated this increase in direct care hours can and should be done!

Person-centered care is of utmost importance when making any decision in skilled nursing and increasing the direct care hours will provide even better care for residents. A price tag can't be put on peace of mind that a family member has knowing that their loved one is being provided with the best care possible.

While you may not know anyone currently in a skilled nursing facility, I urge you to think about future needs. What would you want for your yourself, family members or friends?

Please do everything in your power to support the changes of Pennsylvania's nursing home regulations including **INCREASING** the direct care hours to 4.1 hours per resident per day.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Caitlin Foltz