



**From:** [Mary Knapp](#)  
**To:** [DH, LTCRegs](#)  
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**Subject:** [External] DOH Proposed Regulations  
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William and Marianne Mebane  
215 Foulkeways  
Gwynedd PA 19436

August 28, 2021

Lori Gutierrez  
Deputy Director, Office of Policy  
625 Forster Street, Room 814  
Health and Welfare Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Ms. Gutierrez.

I am responding to the U regulations that would apply to our nursing program at Foulkeways. I support the efforts of the health department to improve the quality of care and long-term care facilities in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. As a physician who has cared for patients in several nursing facilities during my career, I feel that I have a reasonable handle on the quality of care rendered by such facilities. Certain regulations are needed. That is a given. However, there are exceptions, especially in the case of excellence where one shoe does not fit all.

I now find myself in a new relationship with a long-term care facility. My wife of 66 years has been a patient in the nursing care area of Foulkeways for the last seven months. With an opportunity to observe the care close-up, I can assure you that the nursing care, the care of the nursing aides, the commitment to hands-on relationships and emotional support of the patient as well as the family has been superb. I see this every day and the dedication of the nursing and ancillary staff and the wraparound attention that my wife receives. Never once in the eight years that I have lived here in independent living or in the seven months since Marianne has been in nursing care have I ever known a patient to develop a skin breakdown. Never had I detected the odor of urine when walking down the hall or into a patient's room. Never have I heard negative comments about the quality of nursing care nor have I heard that angry words between staff and resident.

The new regulations will impose electronic reporting requirements that would mean significant financial investment on the part of this institution as well as a huge amount of nursing time directed to an area other than hands-on care. I know what it's like to institute an electronic system having lived through several of these in my professional career. I understand what it means to add more reporting requirements.

Please do not tie the hands of this superb institution with your new regulatory requirements. Take into account the excellent record that this institution has had over the last years and find a way to help them continue to do what they have done so well .... Which is to give their patients the very best compassionate, humane, skillful care.

I wish you success in your efforts to ensure a high quality nursing care in Pennsylvania.

Respectfully,

William N. Mebane. MD

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