



From: [Nancy Nitzberg](#)
To: [DH, LTCRegs](#)
Cc: [Mary Knapp](#)
Subject: [External] Much concern regarding Proposed Rulemaking
Date: Monday, August 30, 2021 11:58:27 AM

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

Dear Ms. Gutierrez,

I have learned that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is considering streamlining rules for skilled nursing facilities to more closely reflect Medicare guidelines. I have read sections of the [Proposed Rulemaking](#) report, and see the following statement: ". . .any negative impact in applying the Federal requirements to the three facilities that do not participate in Medicare or Medicaid will be minimum and is vastly outweighed by the need for consistency in the application of standards in long-term care nursing facilities Statewide." I would like to know if the directors of the three long-term care nursing facilities were consulted, and if so, if they really agreed that the new requirements will be minimal, or if this is really being done to streamline recordkeeping Statewide at the expense of patient care?

I am writing to you from Foulkeways at Gwynedd, a non-profit, life-care community. Foulkeways does not accept Medicare, the intention (and result) being that our health professionals' time is used primarily for patient care and not for Medicare-related paperwork, which as I understand it, is much more time consuming than the useful and reliable records kept by the professional staff.

Contrary to the above quoted statement, I learned from our health care professionals that the proposed new rules will add much administrative time to the schedules our devoted health care professionals whose priority is to

provide patient care, as well as to provide necessary, individualized documentation. My husband is in the Personal Care section of Foulkeways, and may need skilled nursing care in the not too distant future. I am personally concerned about this change, having chosen Foulkeways for its fine reputation, especially for its skilling nursing component.

Thank you for considering the individual circumstances of Foulkeways and other such communities.

Sincerely,

Nancy H. Nitzberg

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