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Independent Regulatory
Review Commission

Berit M. Lakey 1309 Foulkeways Gwynedd, PA 19436

October 24, 2022

Lori Gutierrez, Deputy Director Office of Policy

e-mail: RA-DHLTCRegs@pa.gov

Dear Ms Gutierrez,

Having just learned that you are collecting comments on the proposed PA Nursing Facility Licensure Regulations, I want to express my dismay at the prospect that nursing staff in the Foulkeways Nursing Facility (Gwynedd) might have to spend precious time completing forms related to Medicare requirements rather than spending their time paying attention to their patients.

When I learned that Foulkeways in 2017 had exited the Medicare program for Nursing facilities, I was relieved that our Board of Directors had decided that it was counter-productive to continue participating in a program that provided minimal financial support in exchange for paper work that does not fit our operations or our values. Our nursing facility is rather small (52 beds) and I can assure you that as residents who might at some point benefit from the care at Gwynedd we are closely attuned to the quality of care provided for our friends. In addition, we are proud that no deficiencies were found as part of the DOH survey this year.

The notion that we might need to hire an additional RN to deal with the Medicare paperwork, from (which we do not benefit), is upsetting, both because it would result in higher fees for us residents and because it would be a waste of precious professional time and commitment. In my humble opinion, IT DOES NOT MAKE SENSE.

Foulkeways is a self-funded private nursing home, with a proven track record of excellent patient care, and should be excempt from State imposed regulations.

Sincerely,

Berit M. Lakey Resident since 2013

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