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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1166 Session of  
2003

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INTRODUCED BY BEBKO-JONES, CAWLEY, HARHAI, JAMES, TANGRETTI,  
THOMAS, WASHINGTON AND YOUNGBLOOD, APRIL 15, 2003

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,  
APRIL 15, 2003

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AN ACT

1 Placing a moratorium on licensure or certification on certain  
2 health care facilities by the Department of Health.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Health Care  
7 Facility Moratorium Act.

8 Section 2. Definitions.

9 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
10 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
11 context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Department." The Department of Health of the Commonwealth.

13 "Facility." Any of the following:

14 (1) A long-term care facility.

15 (2) A nursing home.

16 (3) A skilled nursing facility.

17 (4) A skilled nursing facility in an acute care

1 hospital.

2 "Unit." A rehabilitation unit in an acute care hospital.

3 Section 3. Moratorium on licensure or certification.

4 (a) Facilities.--For a period of 18 months or until the  
5 department promulgates new regulations for the licensure or  
6 certification of facilities, whichever is later, the department  
7 may not license or certify a facility.

8 (b) Units.--For a period of 18 months or until the  
9 department promulgates new regulations for the licensure or  
10 certification of units, whichever is later, the department may  
11 not survey a unit.

12 Section 4. Expansion of capacity.

13 Nothing in this act shall prohibit a currently licensed or  
14 certified facility or unit from increasing its bed capacity by  
15 ten beds or 10% of its present capacity.

16 Section 10. Effective date.

17 This act shall take effect immediately.