

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1287 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY CRUZ, YOUNGBLOOD, BURGOS, DONATUCCI, SCHLOSSBERG, HILL-EVANS, T. DAVIS, FREEMAN, DeLUCA, McCLINTON, MADDEN AND KORTZ, APRIL 25, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, APRIL 25, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), entitled "An
 2 act relating to health care; prescribing the powers and
 3 duties of the Department of Health; establishing and
 4 providing the powers and duties of the State Health
 5 Coordinating Council, health systems agencies and Health Care
 6 Policy Board in the Department of Health, and State Health
 7 Facility Hearing Board in the Department of Justice;
 8 providing for certification of need of health care providers
 9 and prescribing penalties," in licensing of health care
 10 facilities, providing for Culture and Quality of Life
 11 Certification Program.

12 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 13 hereby enacts as follows:

14 Section 1. The act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known
 15 as the Health Care Facilities Act, is amended by adding a
 16 section to read:

17 Section 822. Culture and Quality of Life Certification Program.

18 (a) Establishment.--The department shall establish a Culture
 19 and Quality of Life Certification Program.

20 (b) Certification.--Long-term care nursing facilities may
 21 apply for the special certification, through the department,
 22 which shall recognize the facility's effort to create a home-

1 like environment and cultural opportunities for its residents,
2 including, but not limited to:

3 (1) An individual-centered approach to care.

4 (2) Social interactions.

5 (3) Partnerships with the community and volunteer
6 organizations.

7 (4) Participation of family and friends.

8 (5) Creative arts.

9 (6) Diversity of activities available to residents.

10 (7) Attention to cultural considerations.

11 (8) Creation of a home-like design aesthetic.

12 (9) Outdoor facilities such as patios, decks and
13 gardens.

14 (c) Regulations.--Regulations, including the application and
15 approval process, shall be promulgated by the department.

16 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.