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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL  
No. 2614 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY HEFFLEY, SCHLEGEL CULVER, PICKETT, BOBACK,  
KAUFFMAN, RYAN, MACKENZIE, MILLARD, TOMLINSON, READSHAW,  
DeLUCA, NEILSON AND MASSER, JUNE 23, 2020

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, JUNE 23, 2020

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AN ACT

1 Providing for negative COVID-19 testing of hospital patients  
2 before admission to facilities and imposing duties on the  
3 Department of Health.

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

6 Section 1. Short title.

7 This act shall be known and may be cited as the COVID-19  
8 Long-Term Care Facility Safety Act.

9 Section 2. Definitions.

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

13 "COVID-19." As identified in the proclamation of disaster  
14 emergency issued by the Governor on March 6, 2020, published at  
15 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020), and any renewal of the state of  
16 disaster emergency.

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

18 "Facility." Any of the following:

1           (1) A long-term care nursing facility as defined in  
2       section 802.1 of the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48),  
3       known as the Health Care Facilities Act.

4           (2) A personal care home as defined in section 1001 of  
5       the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human  
6       Services Code.

7           (3) An assisted living residence as defined in section  
8       1001 of the Human Services Code.

9       Section 3. Negative COVID-19 testing requirement.

10       (a) General rule.--The department may not require a facility  
11       to admit a patient who is discharged from a hospital until the  
12       patient has tested negative for COVID-19.

13       (b) Regulations.--The department shall promulgate rules and  
14       regulations necessary to implement this section.

15       Section 4. Effective date.

16       This act shall take effect immediately.