
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 158 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY THOMAS, FARRY, LABS, POLINCHOCK, SCHROEDER,
STAATS, TOMLINSON, MIZGORSKI, HILL-EVANS, MILLARD, SANCHEZ,
GUENST, NEILSON, IRVIN, ROTHMAN, GALLOWAY, ZIMMERMAN, ECKER,
GREGORY, MALAGARI, SHUSTERMAN, GLEIM, KENYATTA, CAUSER,
HOWARD, T. DAVIS, N. NELSON, GILLEN, SMITH, BROOKS, HELM,
RYAN, R. BROWN, DRISCOLL, MIHALEK, STEPHENS, BOBACK,
BERNSTINE, MOUL, ISAACSON, CIRESI, SAYLOR, SCHLEGEL CULVER
AND WARREN, JANUARY 14, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, JANUARY 14, 2021

AN ACT

1 Providing for a long-term care medical director registry and
2 imposing duties on the Department of Health and the
3 Department of Human Services.

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 Long-Term
8 Care Medical Director Registry and Communication 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 "Department." The Department of Health of the Commonwealth.

14 "Disaster emergency." A declaration by the Governor of a
15 disaster emergency under 35 Pa.C.S. § 7301(c) (relating to

1 general authority of Governor).

2 "Facility." Any of the following:

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

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

9 (3) An assisted living residence as defined in section
10 1001 of the Human Services Code.

11 "Medical director." A physician who:

12 (1) oversees the medical care and other designated care
13 and services in a health care organization or facility;

14 (2) is responsible for coordinating medical care and
15 assisting in the implementation and evaluation of resident
16 care policies to reflect current professional standards; and

17 (3) is either the primary or associate medical director.

18 Section 3. Medical director registry.

19 (a) Establishment.--The department, in consultation with the
20 Department of Human Services, shall establish a registry of
21 long-term care nursing facility and, where applicable, personal
22 care home and assisted living residence medical directors in
23 this Commonwealth.

24 (b) Collection of information.--The department and the
25 Department of Human Services shall collect the following
26 information for inclusion in the registry as a component of the
27 annual inspection of a facility required under the act of July
28 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health Care Facilities
29 Act, and the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the
30 Human Services Code:

1 (1) The contact information for the medical director,
2 including a telephone number, facility location and office e-
3 mail address.

4 (2) If applicable, proof of completion of a certified
5 medical director course or any other certification that
6 indicates the medical director has participated in medical
7 director training.

8 (c) Registry access.--The registry shall be available to the
9 following:

10 (1) The department.

11 (2) The Department of Human Services.

12 (3) A facility.

13 (d) Utilization.--The following shall apply:

14 (1) The department and the Department of Human Services
15 shall consult with the medical directors listed on the
16 registry to obtain current information and best practices
17 within facilities during a disaster emergency relating to
18 public health and other public health emergencies.

19 (2) The department and the Department of Human Services
20 may consult with the medical directors listed on the registry
21 to obtain current information and best practices within
22 facilities when there is not a disaster declaration relating
23 to public health or current public health emergency.

24 Section 4. Effective date.

25 This act shall take effect in 60 days.