

2020 -- S 2746

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LC004438
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- NURSING HOME STAFFING

Introduced By: Senators Crowley, Metts, Sheehan, and Quezada

Date Introduced: March 04, 2020

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 23-17.5 of the General Laws entitled "Rights of Nursing Home
2 Patients" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **23-17.5-32. Minimum staffing levels.**

4 (a) Each facility shall have the necessary nursing service personnel (licensed and non-
5 licensed) in sufficient numbers on a twenty-four (24) hour basis, to assess the needs of residents,
6 to develop and implement resident care plans, to provide direct resident care services, and to
7 perform other related activities to maintain the health, safety and welfare of residents. The facility
8 shall have a registered nurse on the premises twenty-four (24) hours a day.

9 (b) Commencing on January 1, 2021, nursing facilities shall provide a minimum daily
10 average of four and one-tenth (4.1) hours of direct nursing care per resident, per day, of which at
11 least two and eight-tenths (2.8) hours shall be provided by certified nurse assistants.

12 (c) The department shall promulgate rules and regulations in consultation with
13 stakeholders to implement these minimum staffing requirements on or before January 1, 2021.

14 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T
RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- NURSING HOME STAFFING

- 1 This act would mandate minimum staffing levels and standards for quality care for
- 2 nursing homes and their residents.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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