

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1931 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY MARCELL, LABS AND MENTZER, DECEMBER 28, 2023

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
AS AMENDED, MARCH 18, 2024

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  
16 general authority of Governor).

17 "Facility." Any of the following:

18 (1) A long-term care nursing facility as defined in

1 section 802.1 of the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48),  
2 known as the Health Care Facilities Act.

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

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

8 "Medical director." A physician who:

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

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

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

15 Section 3. Medical director registry.

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

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

28 (1) The contact information for the medical director,  
29 including a telephone number, facility location and office  
30 email address.

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

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

7 (1) The department.

8 (2) The Department of Human Services.

9 (3) A facility.

10 (4) THE DEPARTMENT OF AGING. <--

11 (d) Utilization.--

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

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

22 Section 4. Effective date.

23 This act shall take effect in 60 days.