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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 2792 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY THOMAS, DAY, SCHROEDER, TOMLINSON, NELSON,  
POLINCHOCK, HILL-EVANS, MIZGORSKI AND ROZZI, AUGUST 31, 2020

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, AUGUST 31, 2020

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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 facility and, where applicable, personal  
19 care home and assisted living residence medical directors in  
20 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 the act of  
25 July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health Care  
26 Facilities Act, and the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21),  
27 known as the Human Services Code:

28 (1) The contact information for the medical director,  
29 including a telephone number, facility location and office e-  
30 mail 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          (d) Utilization.--The following shall apply:

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

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

21 Section 4. Effective date.

22          This act shall take effect in 60 days.