

# NURSING HOMES

## STOP THE FEDERAL MINIMUM STAFFING STANDARD

**Nursing homes face persistent workforce shortages. Any federal minimum staffing standard cannot achieve its intended objectives without significant workforce development investments and fair reimbursement rates.**

### ENACT THE PROTECTING RURAL SENIORS' ACCESS TO CARE ACT (H.R. 5796 / S. 3410) TO:

- Halt the CMS minimum staffing rule and establish an advisory committee on the nursing home workforce shortage. Without a pipeline of new caregivers and resources to recruit them, nursing homes will be forced to downsize or close to meet the rule's requirements.

Note: The Protecting American Seniors' Access to Care Act (H.R. 7513), is a companion to H.R. 5796, which passed the House Ways and Means Committee on March 6.

---

## FIX THE NURSING HOME CNA TRAINING LOCKOUT

**Nursing homes with fines exceeding a certain level are automatically "locked out" of training certified nursing assistants (CNAs) for two full years, regardless of the reason for the fine.**

### ENACT THE ENSURING SENIORS' ACCESS TO QUALITY CARE ACT (H.R. 3227 / S. 1749) TO:

- Allow providers that have demonstrated their return to compliance to restart their training programs rather than having them suspended for a full two years.
- Train more CNAs, who are integral to the aging services workforce; strong training programs are critical to providing the quality care older adults need to thrive.

---

## ALLOW SKILLED NURSING CARE FOLLOWING HOSPITAL STAYS

**Medicare beneficiaries must have an "inpatient" hospital stay of at least three days to receive coverage for skilled nursing care after discharge—denying the needed coverage for care when hospitals hold patients under "observation status" instead of inpatient status.**

### ENACT THE IMPROVING ACCESS TO MEDICARE COVERAGE ACT (H.R. 5138) TO:

- Apply hospital outpatient observation stays toward the three-day qualifying hospital stay requirement so Medicare patients who spend three days in a hospital, regardless of inpatient or observation status, can access post-acute care in a skilled nursing facility.