

Larry Hogan  
Governor

Rona E. Kramer  
Secretary



Boyd K. Rutherford  
Lt. Governor

## DEPARTMENT OF AGING

December 1, 2018

The Honorable Larry Hogan  
Governor  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.  
President of the Senate  
State House, H-107  
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Michael E. Busch  
Speaker of the House of Delegates  
State House, H-101  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities – MSAR #11716**

Dear Governor Hogan, President Miller and Speaker Busch:

In compliance with Health General Article §19-1409(j), MSAR #11716, the Maryland Department of Aging has enclosed the required annual report of the Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

  
Rona E. Kramer  
Secretary

Enclosures

cc: Sarah Albert, Department of Legislative Services

# ***Oversight Committee on Quality of Care In Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities***

December 1, 2018

Subject to §2-1246 of the State Government Article and to comply with Health General Article §19-1409(j) (Chapter 473 of the Laws of Maryland 2018), the following is the required annual report of the Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities regarding its findings and recommendations. The Oversight Committee conducted three meetings during this period.

In 2018, the Oversight Committee focused on: (1) reviewing Health General Article 19-1409 and Senate Bill 4; (2) discussing and developing subcommittees and goals; (3) achieving membership capacity; (4) the annual report and period reports from the Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ); and (5) the annual report from the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program.

- ❖ Obtained reports from agency senior staff.
  - Carol Fenderson and Margie Heald, OHCQ, on behalf of Tricia Nay, MD, Director, OHCQ, provided periodic reports on the status of quality of care in nursing homes and assisted living facilities.
  - Tricia Nay, MD, Director, OHCQ, provided an annual report on the implementation of OHCQ's statutory and regulatory long-term care mandates.
  - Stevanne Ellis, State Ombudsman, Maryland Department of Aging (MDOA), provided an annual informational report and periodic updates on the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program.
  
- ❖ Solicited input from Oversight Committee members.
  - Kim Burton of the Mental Health Association of Maryland described an initiative in Maryland—the Older Adult Behavioral Health Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) Specialist Project—funded by the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) using federal *Money Follows the Person* funds.
  
- ❖ Monitored the status of significant program initiatives, including the proposed nursing home and assisted living regulations. A subcommittee to focus specifically on these regulations was established.
  
- ❖ Pursuant to Section 2 of Chapter 473/Senate Bill 4, the Oversight Committee reviewed changes to the membership and duties of the Committee. These recommendations were submitted on October 31, 2018 to revise Health General Article § 19-1409(b)(15) regarding assisted living provider representation within the Committee.

The Oversight Committee will continue to solicit input on evidence-based methods to ensure optimal quality of care for persons residing in nursing homes and assisted living facilities.