

Executive Order 2023-06D

Creating the Governor's Nursing Home Quality and Accountability Task Force

WHEREAS, Ohio has nearly 960 nursing homes, the third largest number of nursing homes in the United States, delivering care and treatment to older Ohioans and Ohioans with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) ranks nursing home facilities with star ratings and ranked the State of Ohio 39th among states in the most recent CMS Overall Star Ratings; and

WHEREAS, 40% of Ohio nursing homes have had a decline in their Overall Nursing Facility CMS Star Rating since 2018; and

WHEREAS, too many Ohio nursing homes have had inconsistent compliance with standards of care, repeating and correcting the same deficiencies over the last three survey cycles; and

WHEREAS, Ohio is committed to enhancing the quality of care, elevating the quality of life, and empowering residents' rights while continuously improving its nursing home system.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mike DeWine, Governor of the State of Ohio, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of this State, do hereby order and direct that:

- 1. The Nursing Home Quality and Accountability Task Force ("Task Force") is hereby established.
- 2. The Task Force shall be comprised of public members, subject matter experts, and patient advocates from around the State in the public and private sectors.
- 3. The Task Force shall consist of no more than twenty individuals, appointed by the Governor and serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

- 4. The Task Force shall evaluate and, for advisory purposes, recommend short-term and long-term actions across four dimensions:
 - a. Enabling excellence at our nursing homes with the appropriate quality improvement resources;
 - b. Maintaining oversight and accountability to reduce resident risk;
 - c. Empowering residents and ensuring they are at the forefront of decision-making; and
 - d. Ensuring data transparency and visibility into resident well-being.
- 5. Members of the Task Force shall serve without compensation.
- 6. The Director of the Ohio Department of Aging shall convene the Task Force and serve as Chair of the Task Force. The Director of the Ohio Department of Health shall serve as the Vice-Chair of the Task Force.
- 7. The Task Force shall obtain and summarize resident, caregiver, and expert perspectives on strategies, short-term, and long-term actions to improve nursing home quality.
- 8. The Task Force shall submit a written actionable report to me by May 26, 2023.
- 9. Upon completion of this report and at the discretion of the Chair, the Task Force may continue to meet to provide guidance to the work detailed in the report up until December 31, 2024.

I signed this Executive Order on February 24, 2023, in Columbus, Ohio, and it will expire on January 1, 2025 or sooner if I so order.

Mike DeWine, Governor

ATTEST:

Frank LaRose, Secretary of State

