

7549--A

I N   S E N A T E

May 15, 2014

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Introduced by Sen. SAVINO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Aging -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to specifying procedures for the closure of privately funded assisted living residences

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. Article 46-B of the public health law is amended by adding  
2     a new section 4653-a to read as follows:  
3     S 4653-A. CLOSURE OF PRIVATELY FUNDED ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCES.     1.  
4     FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, PRIVATELY FUNDED MEANS A RESIDENCE IN  
5     WHICH THE RESIDENTS ARE NOT RECIPIENTS OF SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME.  
6     2. IN THE EVENT THAT AN OPERATOR OF A PRIVATELY FUNDED ASSISTED LIVING  
7     RESIDENCE ELECTS TO CLOSE THE RESIDENCE AND TO SURRENDER AN OPERATING  
8     CERTIFICATE AND/OR CERTIFICATION AS AN ENHANCED OR SPECIAL NEEDS  
9     ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCE, THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS SHALL APPLY:  
10    (A) THE OPERATOR SHALL NOTIFY THE APPROPRIATE REGIONAL OFFICE OF THE  
11    DEPARTMENT IN WRITING PRIOR TO THE ANTICIPATED DATE OF CLOSURE OF THE  
12    ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCE AND, IF APPLICABLE, THE ADULT CARE FACILITY,  
13    AND/OR THE DECERTIFICATION OF THE RESIDENCE.  
14    (B) SUCH WRITTEN NOTICE SHALL INCLUDE A PROPOSED PLAN FOR CLOSURE  
15    AND/OR DECERTIFICATION. THE PLAN SHALL BE SUBJECT TO DEPARTMENT  
16    APPROVAL, SHALL INCLUDE TIMETABLES FOR ALL STEPS ENTAILED IN THE CLOSURE  
17    PROCESS AND SHALL DESCRIBE THE PROCEDURES AND ACTIONS THE OPERATOR WILL  
18    TAKE TO:  
19    (I) NOTIFY RESIDENTS OF THE CLOSURE, AND/OR DECERTIFICATION, INCLUDING  
20    PROVISIONS FOR TERMINATION OF ADMISSION AGREEMENTS AND INVOLUNTARY  
21    DISCHARGE;  
22    (II) ASSESS THE NEEDS AND PREFERENCES OF INDIVIDUAL RESIDENTS;  
23    (III) ASSIST RESIDENTS IN LOCATING AND TRANSFERRING TO APPROPRIATE  
24    ALTERNATIVE SETTINGS; AND  
25    (IV) MAINTAIN COMPLIANCE WITH THESE REGULATIONS UNTIL ALL RESIDENTS  
26    HAVE RELOCATED.

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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1 3. (A) THE OPERATOR SHALL TAKE NO ACTION TO CLOSE THE RESIDENCE PRIOR  
2 TO DEPARTMENT APPROVAL OF THE PLAN FOR CLOSURE AND/OR DECERTIFICATION.

3 (B) THE OPERATOR SHALL NOT CLOSE THE RESIDENCE UNTIL ALL RESIDENTS OF  
4 THE RESIDENCE HAVE TRANSFERRED TO APPROPRIATE ALTERNATIVE SETTINGS.

5 (C) THE OPERATOR SHALL NOT INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF ANY RENT, FEES OR  
6 OTHER SURCHARGES CHARGED TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE ASSISTED LIVING RESI-  
7 DENCE, THEIR FAMILIES OR THEIR INSURANCE COMPANIES, IF ANY, PRIOR TO  
8 DEPARTMENT APPROVAL OF THE PLAN FOR CLOSURE AND/OR DECERTIFICATION. THE  
9 OPERATOR SHALL NOT INSTITUTE ANY NEW FEES OR OTHER SURCHARGES CHARGED TO  
10 THE RESIDENTS OF THE ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCE, THEIR FAMILIES OR THEIR  
11 INSURANCE COMPANIES, IF ANY, PRIOR TO DEPARTMENT APPROVAL OF THE PLAN  
12 FOR CLOSURE AND/OR DECERTIFICATION.

13 (D) THE OPERATOR SHALL NOT ACCEPT NEW RESIDENTS OR APPLICATIONS FOR  
14 RESIDENCY AFTER THE OPERATOR HAS NOTIFIED THE APPROPRIATE REGIONAL  
15 OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT THAT THE OPERATOR INTENDS TO CLOSE OR DECERTIFY  
16 THE ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCE.

17 4. AS PART OF THE FINAL APPROVAL OF THE CLOSURE PLAN, THE DEPARTMENT  
18 AND OPERATOR SHALL AGREE UPON A TARGET CLOSURE DATE, WHICH SHALL BE AT  
19 LEAST ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DAYS FROM THE ACTUAL DATE THE OPERATOR NOTIFIES  
20 RESIDENTS OF THE CLOSURE. IN PROVIDING NOTIFICATION OF SUCH TARGET  
21 CLOSURE DATE TO RESIDENTS, THE OPERATOR SHALL ALSO NOTIFY RESIDENTS THAT  
22 ADDITIONAL TIME WILL BE PROVIDED TO RESIDENTS WHO MAKE GOOD FAITH  
23 EFFORTS TO SECURE AN ALTERNATIVE SETTING AND HAVE DEMONSTRATED A REASON-  
24 ABLE BASIS FOR NEEDING MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED TWENTY DAYS TO TRANSFER TO  
25 AN APPROPRIATE ALTERNATIVE SETTING, SO LONG AS IT REMAINS SAFE AND  
26 APPROPRIATE TO RESIDE IN THE BUILDING AT SUCH TIME.

27 5. THE OPERATOR SHALL IMPLEMENT THE APPROVED PLAN TO INSURE THAT  
28 ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONTINUED CARE WHICH MEET EACH RESIDENT'S SOCIAL,  
29 EMOTIONAL AND HEALTH NEEDS ARE EFFECTUATED PRIOR TO CLOSURE AND/OR  
30 DECERTIFICATION.

31 6. FAILURE TO NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF INTENT TO CEASE OPERATIONS,  
32 FAILURE TO SUBMIT AN APPROVABLE PLAN TO EXECUTE THE APPROVED PLAN,  
33 CLOSURE OR DECERTIFICATION BEFORE ALL RESIDENTS HAVE BEEN APPROPRIATELY  
34 RELOCATED, SHALL RESULT IN THE IMPOSITION OF CIVIL PENALTIES.

35 S 2. This act shall take effect on the first of January, 2015 and  
36 shall apply to all closures of privately funded assisted living resi-  
37 dences occurring on or after such effective date and to all closures of  
38 privately funded assisted living residences pending such effective date.