

# STATE OF NEW YORK

4451

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

February 15, 2017

Introduced by Sen. SAVINO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Aging

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 § 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

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

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1 (iv) maintain compliance with these regulations until all residents  
2 have relocated.

3 3. (a) The operator shall take no action to close the residence prior  
4 to department approval of the plan for closure and/or decertification.

5 (b) The operator shall not close the residence until all residents of  
6 the residence have transferred to appropriate alternative settings.

7 (c) The operator shall not increase the amount of any rent, fees or  
8 other surcharges charged to the residents of the assisted living resi-  
9 dence, their families or their insurance companies, if any, prior to  
10 department approval of the plan for closure and/or decertification. The  
11 operator shall not institute any new fees or other surcharges charged to  
12 the residents of the assisted living residence, their families or their  
13 insurance companies, if any, prior to department approval of the plan  
14 for closure and/or decertification.

15 (d) The operator shall not accept new residents or applications for  
16 residency after the operator has notified the appropriate regional  
17 office of the department that the operator intends to close or decertify  
18 the assisted living residence.

19 4. As part of the final approval of the closure plan, the department  
20 and operator shall agree upon a target closure date, which shall be at  
21 least one hundred twenty days from the actual date the operator notifies  
22 residents of the closure. In providing notification of such target  
23 closure date to residents, the operator shall also notify residents that  
24 additional time will be provided to residents who make good faith  
25 efforts to secure an alternative setting and have demonstrated a reason-  
26 able basis for needing more than one hundred twenty days to transfer to  
27 an appropriate alternative setting, so long as it remains safe and  
28 appropriate to reside in the building at such time.

29 5. The operator shall implement the approved plan to insure that  
30 arrangements for continued care which meet each resident's social,  
31 emotional and health needs are effectuated prior to closure and/or  
32 decertification.

33 6. Failure to notify the department of intent to cease operations,  
34 failure to submit an approvable plan to execute the approved plan,  
35 closure or decertification before all residents have been appropriately  
36 relocated, shall result in the imposition of civil penalties.

37 § 2. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeed-  
38 ing the date on which it shall have become a law, and shall apply to all  
39 closures of privately funded assisted living residences occurring on or  
40 after such effective date and to all closures of privately funded  
41 assisted living residences pending such effective date.