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JOINT LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT AND SUNSET COMMITTEE

## Joint Legislative Oversight and Sunset Committee Holdover Meeting

Virtual Meeting via Zoom  
Public Access via [YouTube](#)

Thursday, April 1, 2021  
9:00 a.m.

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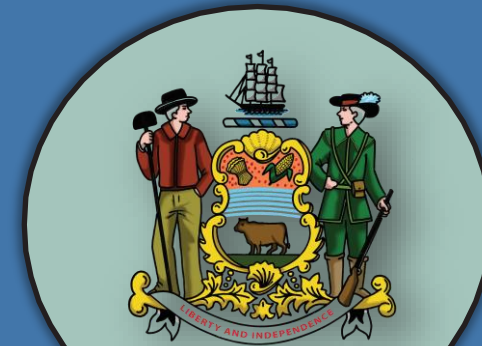
### Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Minutes
3. Recommendation Meeting: Delaware Nursing Home Residents Quality Assurance Commission
4. Adjournment

The public may submit written comments to [Sunset@Delaware.gov](mailto:Sunset@Delaware.gov).

Public access via YouTube:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmePiLcN2Ee8cWOEBuUxG1g>

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## Joint Legislative Oversight & Sunset Committee

# Recommendation Meeting

# Delaware Nursing Home Residents Quality Assurance Commission

# 151<sup>st</sup> General Assembly, 1<sup>st</sup> year

# RECOMMENDATIONS 1, 2

## **Recommendation 1: Continue or Terminate**

Option 1: The Delaware Nursing Home Residents Quality Assurance Commission shall continue, subject to any further recommendations that JLOSC adopts.

- OR -

Option 2: The Delaware Nursing Home Residents Quality Assurance Commission is terminated, and the Committee will sponsor legislation to implement this recommendation.

## **Recommendation 2: General Statutory Updates & Technical Corrections**

JLOSC will sponsor a bill to make any technical corrections to DNHRQAC's entire governing statute, Chapter 79, Title 29.<sup>1</sup>

# RECOMMENDATION 3

## Recommendation 3: Administrative and Budgetary Responsibility

Option 1: JLOSC shall sponsor legislation specifying that administrative and budgetary responsibilities related to DNHRQAC are the responsibility of the Department of Safety and Homeland Security.<sup>2</sup>

-OR-

Option 2: JLOSC shall sponsor legislation specifying that administrative and budgetary responsibilities related to DNHRQAC are the responsibility of the Department of Health and Social Services.



Long Term Care Ombudsman Program

- Budget Bill: Administrative Office of the Courts
- Governing Statute: Department of Health and Social Services (Title 29, Chpt. 79).
- Option 1: Developmental Disability Council (by Executive Order) & State Council for Persons with Disabilities (by Code).
- Option 2: Long Term Care Ombudsman, Services for the Aging, Health Care Quality



# RECOMMENDATION 4

## Recommendation 4: Name Change

DNHRQAC shall explore changing its name to one more easily recognizable to long-term care residents, the public, and other stakeholders. (example: DCARES: Delaware Commission for Aging Residents' Safety)

## A normative study of acronyms and acronym naming

Cristina Izura • David Playfoot

& Binder, 2005). Print-to-pronunciation patterns in acronyms were divided into three categories: unambiguous pronunciation pattern (e.g., BBC), ambiguous but typical pronunciation pattern (e.g., HIV), and ambiguous atypical pronunciation pattern (e.g., SCUBA). Acronyms' print-to-pronunciation patterns of interest in the study

As was predicted, number of letters affected acronym naming times reflecting the general serial nature of acronym naming. From the phonological measures of word length, only number of phonemes had an influence on reaction times. Bigram frequency affected reaction times and accuracy, while trigram frequency made a significant contribution to naming times only. Studies of standard word naming have struggled to find bigram frequency effects once other

## Alienating the Audience: How Abbreviations Hamper Scientific Communication

Andrew H. Hales, Kipling D. Williams, and Joel Rector

Abbreviations as Alienating

Expecting that unfamiliar acronyms would have similar effects, we recently tested this idea in an experiment during which we randomly assigned 98 college students to read variations of a recruitment message from CrossFit, a fitness organization known for using many abbreviations. In a control condition, the passage spelled out all abbreviations on every mention. In an *abbreviations with clarification* condition, the passage used abbreviations but clarified their meaning on the first mention only. In a final *abbreviations without clarification* condition, the passage used abbreviations with no clarifications, even on first use. Participants reported their levels of basic psychological needs (belonging, self-esteem, control, and meaningful existence), their interest in joining the group, and their sense of how difficult the passage was to read. The results were clear: As the passage became less clear, participants reported not only more



## Recommendation 4

- Pronunciation patterns and length.
- Error rate and ability to recall.
- Unfamiliarity: length and complexity.
- Audience disinterest.
- Length affected reaction time and accuracy.
- Pronunciation pattern of example.
  - Limit error rate, disinterest.
  - Ease of recall.

# RECOMMENDATIONS 5, 6, 7

## **Recommendation 5: Criteria for Facility Visits**

DNHRQAC shall develop a criteria and rubric for visits to long-term care facilities. This rubric shall be published to its website and included in the annual report.

## **Recommendation 6: Eagle's Law Update**

DNHRQAC shall engage the necessary stakeholders to report and recommend to the Department of Health and Social Services and the General Assembly needed changes to Eagle's Law, Chapter 11, Title 16 of Delaware Code, no later than January 31, 2022.

## **Recommendation 7: Staffing Ratios at Assisted Living Facilities**

DNHRQAC shall conduct the required research to report and recommend to the Department of Health and Social Services and the General Assembly the necessary policy to adopt staffing ratios at assisted living facilities no later than January 31, 2022.

**Recommendation 5:**  
Provide additional insight and detail of visits.

**Recommendation 6:**  
Advocate for updates to current statute & review, monitor, evaluate any proposed changes.

**Recommendation 7:**  
Review and make recommendations based on information available.

# RECOMMENDATION 8

## Recommendation 8: Elder Caucus

DNHRQAC shall provide information to the General Assembly relating to the creation of an Elder or Aging Caucus with a focus on the structure other legislatures and governing bodies have utilized.



The screenshot shows the Connecticut General Assembly website. The header includes the state seal and the text "CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY" and "State Capitol | Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1562". A navigation menu lists "Representation", "Committees", "Offices", "Commissions", "Session Items", "Statutes", "Bill Info", and "Associations". Below the navigation, the breadcrumb trail reads "C G A / COMMITTEES / AGING". The main content area is titled "Aging Committee" and contains the text: "The Aging Committee is one of the joint standing committees of the General Assembly. It consists of 13 members - 4 Senators and 9 Representatives. The committee represents the interests of the elderly citizens." At the bottom of the page, there is a "Committee Membership" link.



Maine Public Radio  
The World

## Bipartisan Group that Advocates for Seniors to Continue in New Maine Legislature

By MAL LEARY / (PEOPLE/MAL-LEARY) • NOV 30, 2016

## Recommendation 8

- “Opportunity for Improvement”
- Recommend Structure:
  - Standing Committee?
  - Informal Working Group?

**2021 COLORADO  
LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS ON  
AGING**

HOSTED BY SEN. GINAL &  
REP. YOUNG, CO-CHAIRS



# RECOMMENDATION 9

## Recommendation 9: Annual Report Updates

DNHRQAC shall add the following information to its annual report:

- a. Rubric, criteria, findings, and recommendations from facility visits.
- b. Any recommendations made to the Department of Health and Social Services, the Governor, the General Assembly, and other stakeholder organizations.
- c. Summary of legislative lobbying efforts, including the Commission's position on legislation and regulations effecting long-term care residents.
- d. Policy, advocacy, and legislative goals for the upcoming year.

## Recommendation 9

- Goal of enhancing the advocacy efforts of DNHRQAC.
- Highlighting the Commission's duties:
  - Evaluating
  - Monitoring
  - Reviewing
  - Making Recommendations
- Specify planning process for the upcoming year.

# RECOMMENDATIONS 10, 11

## **Recommendation 10: Follow Up Reporting**

DNHRQAC shall submit a status report, no later than January 31, 2022, updating the JLOSC on the implementation process of the adopted recommendations.

## **Recommendation 11: Release from Review or Hold Over**

Option 1: DNHRQAC is released from review upon enactment of JLOSC-sponsored legislation and submission of the status report.

- OR -


Option 2: DNHRQAC is held over and shall report to the Committee in January 2022.





# Stay Connected

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