STATE OF DELAWARE

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.

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

Public access via YouTube:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCueeGLoN3eC8w04O3EquG1g

Delaware Nursing Home Residents Quality Assurance Commission
151st General Assembly, 1st 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 29.¹
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.²

-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.

- Budget Bill: Administrative Office of the Courts

- Governing Statue: 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 pattern reflects the general serial nature of acronym naming. From the phonological measures of word lengths, the 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

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 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 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.

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