

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 841 Session of 2025

INTRODUCED BY ARGALL, PICOZZI, VOGEL, COSTA, FONTANA, SCHWANK,
COLLETT, TARTAGLIONE AND MALONE, JUNE 9, 2025

REFERRED TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, JUNE 9, 2025

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), entitled "An
2 act relating to health care; prescribing the powers and
3 duties of the Department of Health; establishing and
4 providing the powers and duties of the State Health
5 Coordinating Council, health systems agencies and Health Care
6 Policy Board in the Department of Health, and State Health
7 Facility Hearing Board in the Department of Justice;
8 providing for certification of need of health care providers
9 and prescribing penalties," in licensing of health care
10 facilities, further providing for licensure.

11 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
12 hereby enacts as follows:

13 Section 1. Section 806(d.1)(3) of the act of July 19, 1979
14 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health Care Facilities Act, is
15 amended and subsections (d) and (d.1) are amended by adding
16 paragraphs to read:

17 Section 806. Licensure.

18 * * *

19 (d) Home health care agency regulations.--

20 * * *

21 (7) Individuals employed by a home health care agency or
22 a home care agency or registry providing home health aide

1 services or personal assistance services shall complete at
2 least four hours of initial training and at least two hours
3 of continued training regarding the treatment and care for
4 persons with dementia, the credit for which shall be portable
5 between employment within this Commonwealth. The following
6 shall apply to the training requirements under this
7 paragraph:

8 (i) Initial dementia training shall include the
9 topics of Alzheimer's disease and dementia, person-
10 centered care, assessment and care planning, activities
11 of daily living and dementia-related behaviors and
12 communication.

13 (ii) In addition to the initial training, continued
14 education shall include new information on best practices
15 in the treatment and care of persons with dementia.

16 (iii) To provide training, an entity must submit a
17 proposed curriculum for review and validation to the
18 department, on a form and in a manner as determined by
19 the department. The department shall select a training
20 entity with experience in the development and
21 implementation of relevant curriculum in this
22 Commonwealth. Initial training is considered complete
23 once the individual takes and passes an evaluation, as
24 determined by the department.

25 (iv) Within one year of the effective date of this
26 paragraph, the department shall promulgate regulations
27 necessary to carry out the provisions of this paragraph.

28 (d.1) Home care agency and home care registry licensure
29 requirements.--

30 * * *

1 (3) Documentation of compliance with at least one of the
2 training requirements under paragraph (1) and the training
3 requirements under paragraph (7) shall be maintained in each
4 individual's file in the home care agency or home care
5 registry office. Documentation of applicable State licensure
6 for any health care practitioner shall also be maintained on
7 file in the home care agency or registry office.

8 * * *

9 (7) (i) In addition to the requirements under this
10 subsection, the following individuals must complete at
11 least four hours of initial training and at least two
12 hours of continued training regarding the treatment and
13 care for persons with dementia, which shall be portable
14 between employment within this Commonwealth:

15 (A) A direct care worker providing personal
16 assistant services in Office of Long-Term Living
17 participant-directed service models within the
18 Community Health Choices Program and programs
19 authorized under the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation
20 Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-203, 101 Stat. 1330).

21 (B) An individual with direct consumer contact
22 employed by a home care agency.

23 (C) An individual referred to a consumer by a
24 home care registry after the effective date of this
25 clause.

26 (ii) The following shall apply to the training
27 requirements under subparagraph (i):

28 (A) Initial dementia training shall include the
29 topics of Alzheimer's disease and dementia, person-
30 centered care, assessment and care planning,

1 activities of daily living and dementia-related
2 behaviors and communication.

3 (B) To provide training, an entity must submit a
4 proposed curriculum for review and validation to the
5 department, on a form and in a manner as determined
6 by the department. The department shall select a
7 training entity with experience in the development
8 and implementation of relevant curriculum in this
9 Commonwealth. Initial training is considered complete
10 once the individual takes and passes an evaluation,
11 as determined by the department.

12 (C) Continued education shall include new
13 information on best practices in the treatment and
14 care of persons with dementia. Individuals employed
15 by a home health care agency shall complete two hours
16 of continued training annually.

17 (iii) Within one year of the effective date of this
18 paragraph, the department shall promulgate regulations
19 necessary to carry out the provisions of this paragraph.

20 * * *

21 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.