

NOTICE OF INTENT

**Department of Health
Bureau of Health Services Financing**

**Nursing Facilities
Licensing Standards
(LAC 48:I.9701 and 9943)**

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend LAC 48:I.9701 and 9943 as authorized by R.S. 36:254 and 40:2109. This proposed Rule is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend the provisions governing the licensing of nursing facilities in order to align reporting requirements for state licensed nursing facilities with national requirements and provide standardized information to assist with national surveillance on the status of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in all nursing facilities.

Title 48

**PUBLIC HEALTH—GENERAL
Part I. General Administration
Subpart 3. Licensing and Certification**

Chapter 97. Nursing Facilities

Subchapter A. General Provisions

§9701. Definitions

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)—a communicable, contagious, and infectious disease/virus (more specifically, a coronavirus) identified as the cause of an outbreak of respiratory illness first detected in Wuhan, China. COVID-19 is a new disease, caused by a novel (or new) coronavirus that has not previously been seen in humans. Persons with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported—ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:2009.1-2116.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 42:1891 (November 2016), amended LR 46:

Chapter 99. Nursing Facilities

Subchapter C. Infection Control and Sanitation

§9943. Infection Control Program

A. – D. ...

E. Reportable diseases as expressed in the *LAC Title 51, Public Health—Sanitary Code* shall be reported to the local parish health unit of OPH and other agencies as required by state and/or federal laws, statutes, and ordinances.

F. Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Reporting. The facility, in addition to any state and/or local reporting,

shall:

1. electronically report information about COVID-19 in the standardized format, and at the frequency, required by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and
2. inform residents, their representatives, and families of those residing in facilities, of the conditions of residents in the facility, within the timeframe and requirements as specified by CMS regulations and CDC reporting guidelines.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:2009.1-2116.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 42:1930 (November 2016), amended LR 46:

Family Impact Statement

In compliance with Act 1183 of the 1999 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the impact of this proposed Rule on the family has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on family functioning, stability and autonomy as described in R.S. 49:972.

Poverty Impact Statement

In compliance with Act 854 of the 2012 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the poverty impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed

Rule will have no impact on child, individual, or family poverty in relation to individual or community asset development as described in R.S. 49:973.

Small Business Analysis

In compliance with Act 820 of the 2008 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the economic impact of this proposed Rule on small businesses has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on small businesses, as described in R.S. 49:965.2 et seq.

Provider Impact Statement

In compliance with House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 170 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the provider impact of this proposed Rule has been considered. It is anticipated that this proposed Rule will have no impact on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service, no direct or indirect cost to the provider to provide the same level of service, and will have no impact on the provider's ability to provide the same level of service as described in HCR 170.

Public Comments

Interested persons may submit written comments to Cecile Castello, Health Standards Section, P.O. Box 3767, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. Ms. Castello is responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this proposed Rule. The deadline for

submitting written comments is at 4:30 p.m. on August 29, 2020.

Interested persons may submit a written request to conduct a public hearing by U.S. mail to the Office of the Secretary ATTN: LDH Rulemaking Coordinator, Post Office Box 629, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0629; however, such request must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on August 10, 2020. If the criteria set forth in R.S. 49:953(A)(2)(a) are satisfied, LDH will conduct a public hearing at 9:30 a.m. on August 27, 2020 in Room 118 of the Bienville Building, which is located at 628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, LA. To confirm whether or not a public hearing will be held, interested persons should first call Allen Enger at (225) 342-1342 after August 10, 2020. If a public hearing is to be held, all interested persons are invited to attend and present data, views, comments, or arguments, orally or in writing. In the event of a hearing, parking is available to the public in the Galvez Parking Garage, which is located between North Sixth and North Fifth/North and Main Streets (cater-corner from the Bienville Building). Validated parking for the Galvez Garage may be available to public hearing attendees when the parking ticket is presented to LDH staff at the hearing.

Dr. Courtney N. Phillips

Secretary

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Person Preparing Statement: Veronica Dent Dept: Health
Phone: 342-3238 Office: Bureau of Health Services Financing
Return Address: PO Box 91030 Rule Title: Nursing Facilities
Baton Rouge, LA Licensing Standards
Date Rule Takes Effect: October 20, 2020

SUMMARY
(Use complete sentences)

In accordance with Section 953 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a fiscal and economic impact statement on the rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS SUMMARIZE ATTACHED WORKSHEETS, I THROUGH IV AND WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE LOUISIANA REGISTER WITH THE PROPOSED AGENCY RULE.

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will have no programmatic fiscal impact to the state other than the cost of promulgation for FY 20-21. It is anticipated that \$540 will be expended in FY 20-21 for the state's administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

It is anticipated that the implementation of this proposed rule will have no effect on revenue collections since the licensing fees, in the same amounts, will continue to be collected.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

This proposed Rule proposes to amend the provisions governing the licensing of nursing facilities in order to align reporting requirements for state licensed nursing facilities with national requirements and provide standardized information to assist with national surveillance on the status of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in all nursing facilities. It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will not result in costs to nursing facilities for FY 20-21, FY 21-22 and FY 22-23, but will provide an economic benefit by protecting the health and safety of nursing facility residents, personnel and the general public. There will be no impact on small businesses.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

This rule has no known effect on competition and employment.

Cecile Castello, RN
Signature of Agency Head or Designee

Cecile Castello, BSN, RN
Deputy Assistant Secretary
LDH Health Standards Section
Typed Name & Title of Agency Head or Designee

7-8-2020
Date of Signature

Phil Atwell
Signature of Legislative Fiscal Officer or Designee

7/9/20
Date of Signature

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

The following information is required in order to assist the Legislative Fiscal Office in its review of the fiscal and economic impact statement and to assist the appropriate legislative oversight subcommittee in its deliberation on the proposed rule.

A. Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption, or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment). Attach a copy of the notice of intent and a copy of the rule proposed for initial adoption or repeal (or, in the case of a rule change, copies of both the current and proposed rules with amended portions indicated).

This proposed Rule proposes to amend the provisions governing the licensing of nursing facilities in order to align reporting requirements for state licensed nursing facilities with national requirements and provide standardized information to assist with national surveillance on the status of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in all nursing facilities.

B. Summarize the circumstances, which require this action. If the Action is required by federal regulation, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.

The Department of Health, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend the provisions governing the licensing of nursing facilities in order to align reporting requirements for state licensed nursing facilities with national requirements and provide standardized information to assist with national surveillance on the status of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in all nursing facilities.

C. Compliance with Act 11 of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session

(1) Will the proposed rule change result in any increase in the expenditure of funds? If so, specify amount and source of funding.

No. It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will have no programmatic fiscal impact to the state other than the cost of promulgation for FY 20-21. In FY 20-21, \$540 is included for the state's administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.

(2) If the answer to (1) above is yes, has the Legislature specifically appropriated the funds necessary for the associated expenditure increase?

(a) _____ Yes. If yes, attach documentation.

(b) _____ NO. If no, provide justification as to why this rule change should be published at this time

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
WORKSHEET**

I. A. COSTS OR SAVINGS TO STATE AGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED

1. What is the anticipated increase (decrease) in costs to implement the proposed action?

COSTS	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23
Personal Services			
Operating Expenses	\$540		
Professional Services			
Other Charges			
Equipment			
Major Repairs & Constr.			
TOTAL	\$540		
POSITIONS (#)			

2. Provide a narrative explanation of the costs or savings shown in "A. 1.", including the increase or reduction in workload or additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.) anticipated as a result of the implementation of the proposed action. Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these costs.

In FY 20-21, \$540 will be spent for the state's administrative expense for promulgation of this proposed rule and the final rule.

3. Sources of funding for implementing the proposed rule or rule change.

SOURCE	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23
State General Fund	\$540		
Agency Self-Generated			
Dedicated			
Federal Funds			
Other (Specify)			
TOTAL	\$540		

4. Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

Yes, sufficient funds are available to implement this rule.

B. COST OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED.

1. Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements. Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

This proposed rule has no known impact on local governmental units.

2. Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit, which will be affected by these costs or savings.

There is no known impact on the sources of local governmental unit funding.

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
WORKSHEET**

II. EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

A. What increase (decrease) in revenues can be anticipated from the proposed action?

REVENUE INCREASE/DECREASE	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23
State General Fund			
Agency Self-Generated			
Dedicated Funds*			
Federal Funds			
Local Funds			
TOTAL			

*Specify the particular fund being impacted.

B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenues shown in "A." Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these increases or decreases.

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
WORKSHEET**

III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

A. What persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effect on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.), they may have to incur as a result of the proposed action.

This proposed Rule proposes to amend the provisions governing the licensing of nursing facilities in order to align reporting requirements for state licensed nursing facilities with national requirements and provide standardized information to assist with national surveillance on the status of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in all nursing facilities.

B. Also provide an estimate and a narrative description of any impact on receipts and/or income resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

It is anticipated that implementation of this proposed rule will not result in costs to nursing facilities for FY 20-21, FY 21-22 and FY 22-23, but will provide an economic benefit by protecting the health and safety of nursing facility residents, personnel and the general public. There will be no impact on small businesses.

IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

Identify and provide estimates of the impact of the proposed action on competition and employment in the public and private sectors. Include a summary of any data, assumptions and methods used in making these estimates.

This rule has no known effect on competition and employment.