

# Perspectives

Vol. 18, No. 8

*The monthly publication for the assisted living, comprehensive  
personal care and residential health care industry*

August 2015

## Legislation Signed Into Law

**A3504** Lagana (D38); Lampitt (D6); Vainieri Huggle (D37); Sumter (D35); Weinberg (D37); Vitale (D19) requires the Department of Human Services to use and update the NJ Elder Index and related data to the extent possible.

This bill was signed by the Governor on May 7, 2015 as P.L.2015, c.53.

**S1152** Weinberg (D37); Vitale (D19); Madden (D4); Quijano (D20); Wimberly (D35); Munoz (R21); Jasey (D27) permits the attending advanced practice nurse to determine the cause of death and execute death certification of the patient if the nurse is the patient's primary caregiver.

This bill was signed by the Governor on May 4, 2015 as P.L.2015, c.38.



## Legislation Introduced

The State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners proposed various amendments to the rules concerning physical therapy, N.J.A.C. 13:39A.

Included in the proposed amendments are revisions to the scope of practice for physical therapist assistants, standards for delegation to unlicensed individuals, patient record requirements, endorsement procedures, requirements for retention of advertising records and continuing education standards. They also delete a list of examples of prohibited actions for licensed physical therapist assistants. The proposed amendments also restructure the list of tasks that a licensed physical therapist may delegate to unlicensed people. Further amendments clarify that unlicensed people are not permitted to make notations in any documents of patient care and clarify prohibitions on unlicensed persons working with electrodes, modalities, or therapeutic exercise. The Board also proposes amendments to require that contemporaneous notes must be made for each session of physical therapy. The amendments also authorize the issuance of a temporary license to an individual participating in an American Physical Therapy Association approved residency or fellowship.

## HCAB Activity

The Health Care Administration Board voted on June 18, 2015 to approve the Department of Health, Office of Certificate of Need and Healthcare Facility Licensure notice of readoption of the Certificate of Need application and review process rules, N.J.A.C. 8:33, with amendments, repeals and new rules. Most of the changes concern hospitals.

Amendments at N.J.A.C 8:33-4.3 and 5.2 place an additional requirement on an applicant to submit a certificate of need application in electronic media as well as paper.

N.J.A.C 8:33 Appendices B, C, D and E are repealed and replaced with the new CN-1, CN-3, CN-4 and CN-19 forms, respectively. The new forms add language to include one completed certificate of need application in electronic media with the required number of paper copies of the application. Appendix E concerns expedited review applications.



## National Assisted Living Week

Established by The National Center for Assisted Living (NCAL) in 1995, National Assisted Living Week® provides a unique opportunity for residents, families, staff, volunteers, and the surrounding community to come together to share with our residents a variety of events and activities that show them how much we care for them.



The 2015 National Assisted Living Week® (NALW) theme – suggested by NCAL members – is “Nourishing Life: Mind, Body, Spirit.” This year’s celebration will be held from September 13 - 19, 2015.

This year’s theme celebrates the countless ways assisted living caregivers nurture the whole resident. Communities across the country work each and

every day to ensure that the lives of their residents are fully nourished in each and every way. Conversely, residents nourish the lives of team members and volunteers by sharing their inspiring lives.