



Policy Options Poll Results

Joint Commission on Health Care Nursing Facility Workforce Workgroup

Tuesday, November 9, 2021 – 10 a.m.

House Committee Room

Proposed Policy Option	Endorse	Make Changes Before Endorsing	Oppose	Neither Endorse Nor Oppose
OPTION 1 (pg. 6). JCHC could introduce a budget amendment to include language in the Appropriation Act directing Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to develop a plan to increase nursing home reimbursement rates for nursing homes with a disproportionate share of Medicaid residents.	2/4	2/4		
OPTION 2 (pg. 13). JCHC could introduce legislation to amend section § 32.1-127 of the Code of Virginia to require nursing homes to provide at least 3.25 hours per resident day of total direct patient care (total RN, LPN, CNA hours), including at least 0.4 hours per resident day of RN care.	3/3			
OPTION 3 (pg. 14). JCHC could introduce legislation to amend section § 32.1-127 of the Code of Virginia to require nursing homes to provide at least the number of expected total direct care hours and total RN hours that are calculated by CMS based on resident acuity in each nursing home.	1/3			2/3

Proposed Policy Option	Endorse	Make Changes Before Endorsing	Oppose	Neither Endorse Nor Oppose
<p>OPTION 4 (pg. 16). JCHC could introduce a budget amendment to include language in the Appropriation Act directing the Department of Medical Assistance Services to develop a proposal for a nursing home provider assessment that can be submitted to CMS for approval. DMAS should work with appropriate stakeholders, including LeadingAge Virginia and the Virginia Health Care Association, when developing the proposed assessment.</p>	2/4	1/4	1/4	
<p>OPTION 5 (pg. 21). JCHC could introduce a budget amendment to provide general fund appropriations to the Long-Term Facility Nursing Scholarship program.</p>	4/4			
<p>OPTION 6 (pg. 21). JCHC could introduce a budget amendment to include language in the Appropriation Act directing the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to design and seek CMS approval for a quality improvement program addressing nursing home capacity-building with funding from the Civil Monetary Penalties Reinvestment Fund. Program design could be based on the results of the Virginia Gold Quality Improvement Program pilot project.</p>	3/4			1/4
<p>OPTION 7 (pg. 23). JCHC could introduce a budget amendment to include language in the Appropriation Act directing and funding the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to include a formal evaluation that includes assessing the program’s effectiveness at increasing staffing and quality.</p>	2/4	1/4		1/4

Proposed Policy Option	Endorse	Make Changes Before Endorsing	Oppose	Neither Endorse Nor Oppose
<p>OPTION 8 (pg. 24). JCHC could introduce a budget amendment to include language in the Appropriation Act directing the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to develop a plan for an enhanced reimbursement rate to nursing homes for residents with behavioral health diagnoses. The plan should include the diagnoses to be included, the additional care and staff training required, and the estimated cost. The plan should be submitted to the Joint Commission on Health Care, and the Chairs of the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees by October 1, 2022.</p>	4/4			
<p>PROPOSED OPTION: JCHC could endorse the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) request for general funds to expand the number of nurses (CNA, LPNs, and RNs) that Virginia's community colleges can educate and train. The decision package requests \$37.8 million in FY2023, and an additional \$52.7 million in FY24 to expand and enhance existing nursing capacity statewide. Ongoing funding starting in FY25 is estimated at \$28.9 million. VCCS indicates the investment will meet current and growing demand for high skilled nursing professionals and will strengthen pathways to high-paying health care jobs, especially for under-represented population groups.</p>	4/4			

Other Proposals:

- Education loan reimbursement in addition to scholarships for key professions;