



## Study Resolution

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### **Impact of long-term care workforce needs on nursing facility care**

Authorized by the Joint Commission on Healthcare on December 15, 2020

WHEREAS, more than 280 nursing facilities in Virginia serve more than 25,000 Virginians, who live and receive care for their daily needs at those facilities; and

WHEREAS, Virginia's nursing facilities employ direct care staff and licensed clinicians, such as Certified Nurse Aides, Licensed Practical Nurses, and Registered Nurses who assist residents with all aspects of daily living, including eating, dressing, and providing healthcare including proper infection control protocols; and

WHEREAS, nursing facilities in Virginia are licensed by the Virginia Department of Health under state and federal laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare services in 2018 downgraded 19 Virginia nursing facilities on its quality rating system because they did not have enough registered nurses or did not provide necessary staffing data; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need for adequate staffing in Virginia's nursing facilities, to ensure proper resident care and minimize the risk of infection, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, by the Joint Commission on Health Care that staff be directed to study the workforces in Virginia's nursing facilities.

In conducting its study, staff shall (i) assess the extent to which there are staffing shortages for nursing facilities in Virginia and understand the underlying causes of those staffing shortages; (ii) evaluate the impact of staffing shortages on the quality of care provided in nursing facilities; (iii) analyze whether these impacts are disproportionately impacting certain populations in Virginia based on race, socioeconomic status, or other factors; (iv) assess whether Virginia's current licensing requirements and oversight are appropriately identifying and addressing quality of care issues in nursing facilities; and (v) identify strategies to improve recruitment and retention of the workforce necessary for Virginia's nursing facilities.

The Joint Commission on Health Care shall make recommendations as necessary and review other related issues as warranted.

In accordance with § 30-169.1 of the Code of Virginia, all agencies of the Commonwealth, including the Virginia Department of Health, the Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services, local Area Agencies on Aging, and local Departments of Social Services shall provide assistance, information, and data to the JCHC for this study upon request. Assistance is also requested from the Virginia Health Care Association.