Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease

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Cultural Competency Regulations and Licensed Health Care Facilities

Overview:

2019 session of the Legislature passed 2 laws: Senate Bill 470 and Senate Bill 364. Both of these laws impact all listed licensed healthcare facilities under NRS 449 and NAC 449.

470: The state Board of Health requires facilities to conduct training for cultural competency for all agents and staff. This went into effect July 1, 2019.

364: Changes the entire section of 449 about:

- Discrimination policies, adding in language regarding different groups protected from bullying, abuse and harassment.
- Requires posting of a notice including how to file a compliant with the state,
- The information on how to file a complaint with the state,
- Conduct the training of cultural competency,
- Confidentiality regarding the sexual orientation and gender identity of patients and residents,
- Facilities must develop policies that ensure patients or residents are called by their preferred name and gender,
- Adapt health records to ensure accurate information about preferred pronouns and name as well as accurate billing information.
- This has staggered effective dates.

The regulations in section 449 of the NAC are currently going through the approval process and are being reviewed by the Legislative Counsel Bureau. Completed regulations are expected within 6 months.

The proposed regulations include items such as:

- Location and size of posted notices
- Complaint processing by facility and the Division
- Approval process for the trainings and trainers
- Changes the pronouns in the regulations from his/hers to they/theirs
- Changes language about obstetrical care

- Timelines for new hires
- HCQC Inspectors will add to their annual review compliance for licensed facilities after an initial period of compliance.

The law requires that all courses or programs that provide Cultural Competency are approved by the Dept of HHS. The Cultural Competency Advisory Group is reviewing submitted courses. There are several vendors of the state currently providing this training.