



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

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Daniel J. McKee
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March 26, 2024

The Honorable Susan R. Donovan
Chair, House Committee on Health and Human Services
Rhode Island State House
Providence, RI 02903

RE: 2024 H 7733

Dear Chair Donovan:

I write today in regard to 2024 H 7733 An Act Relating to Health and Safety – Nursing Home Workforce Standards Board Act, by Representative Slater.

The Department notes the importance of the matters raised in this legislation and thanks the sponsor for addressing them. While the Department does not take a position on the substantive policy measures contained in this bill, I write to inform the Honorable Members of the Committee of the Department's anticipated budgetary and staffing impacts associated with our role in administering many of the provisions of the bill.

Under this legislation, the Department is charged with hiring an executive director and appropriate staff for the Nursing Home Workforce Standards Board. Based on the Department's experience with other boards of similar scope, we believe the minimum staffing model would require two full-time equivalent (FTE) positions: the statutorily required executive director and administrative support. The Department's estimated cost associated with these two FTEs, inclusive of space, supplies, and indirect costs is \$550,000. Additionally, it is possible that an additional investigator position would have to be added to the Division of Workforce Regulation and Safety, depending on the number of violations detected or complaints received.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation and the FTE and budgetary requirements cited above. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at matthew.weldon@dlt.ri.gov or (401) 462-8870.

Sincerely,

Matthew D. Weldon
Director

CC: Honorable Members of the House Committee on Health and Human Services
Honorable Scott A. Slater
Nicole McCarty, Esq., Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House