

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2018 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **Senate Bill 408**

BY SENATORS TAKUBO, MARONEY, STOLLINGS, AND

PLYMALE

[Introduced January 29, 2018; Referred  
to the Committee on Health and Human Resources; and  
then to the Committee on Government Organization]

1 A BILL to repeal §16-5D-16 and §16-5D-17 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; to  
 2 amend and reenact §16-5C-3 of said code; and to amend and reenact §16-5D-2, §16-5D-  
 3 3, §16-5D-4, §16-5D-5, §16-5D-6, §16-5D-7, §16-5D-8, §16-5D-9, §16-5D-10, §16-5D-  
 4 11, §16-5D-12, §16-5D-13, and §16-5D-15 of said code, all relating to the licensure of  
 5 nursing homes and assisted living residences; repealing duplicative sections of code;  
 6 defining terms; requiring real-time online public information in lieu of annual report;  
 7 clarifying rule requirements; allowing physical and electronic delivery methods for reports;  
 8 and clarifying enforcement action and due process procedures.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

## **ARTICLE 5C. NURSING HOMES.**

### **§16-5C-3. Powers, duties and rights of ~~director~~ secretary.**

1 In the administration of this article, the ~~director~~ secretary shall have the following powers,  
 2 duties and rights:

3 (a) To enforce rules and standards promulgated hereunder for nursing homes;

4 (b) To exercise as sole authority all powers relating to the issuance, suspension and  
 5 revocation of licenses of nursing homes;

6 (c) To enforce rules promulgated hereunder governing the qualification of applicants for  
 7 nursing home licenses, including, but not limited to, educational requirements, financial  
 8 requirements, personal and ethical requirements;

9 (d) To receive and disburse federal funds and to take whatever action not contrary to law  
 10 as may be proper and necessary to comply with the requirements and conditions for the receipt  
 11 of such federal funds;

12 (e) To receive and disburse for authorized purposes any moneys appropriated to the  
 13 ~~division of health~~ department by the Legislature;

14 (f) To receive and disburse for purposes authorized by this article, any funds that may  
 15 come to the ~~division of health~~ department by gift, grant, donation, bequest or devise, according to

16 the terms thereof, as well as funds derived from the ~~division of health's~~ department's operation,  
17 or otherwise;

18 (g) To make contracts, and to execute all instruments necessary or convenient in carrying  
19 out the ~~director's~~ secretary's functions and duties; and all such contracts, agreements and  
20 instruments ~~shall~~ will be executed by the ~~director~~ secretary;

21 (h) To appoint officers, agents, employees and other personnel and fix their compensation;

22 (i) To offer and sponsor educational and training programs for nursing homes for clinical,  
23 administrative, management and operational personnel;

24 (j) To undertake survey, research and planning projects and programs relating to  
25 administration and operation of nursing homes and to the health, care, treatment and service in  
26 general of such homes;

27 (k) To assess civil penalties for violations of facility standards, in accordance with §16-5C-  
28 10 of this code;

29 (l) To inspect any nursing home and any records maintained therein that are necessary to  
30 determine compliance with licensure laws or Medicare or Medicaid certification, subject to the  
31 provisions of §16-5C-9 and §16-5C-10 of this code;

32 (m) To establish and implement procedures, including informal conferences,  
33 investigations and hearings, subject to applicable provisions of §29A-3-1 *et seq.* of this code, and  
34 to enforce compliance with the provisions of this article and with rules issued hereunder;

35 (n) To subpoena witnesses and documents, administer oaths and affirmations, and to  
36 examine witnesses under oath for the conduct of any investigation or hearing. Upon failure of a  
37 person without lawful excuse to obey a subpoena to give testimony and upon reasonable notice  
38 to all persons affected thereby, the ~~director~~ secretary may apply to the circuit court of the county  
39 in which the hearing is to be held for an order compelling compliance;

40 (o) To make complaint or cause proceedings to be instituted against any person or  
41 persons for the violation of the provisions of this article or of rules issued hereunder. Such action

42 may be taken by the ~~director~~ secretary without the sanction of the prosecuting attorney of the  
43 county in which proceedings are instituted, if the officer fails or refuses to discharge his or her  
44 duty. The circuit court of the county in which the conduct has occurred or, if emergency  
45 circumstances require, the ~~circuit court~~ Circuit Court of Kanawha County shall have jurisdiction in  
46 all civil enforcement actions brought under this article and may order equitable relief without bond.  
47 In no such case may the ~~director~~ secretary or any person acting under the ~~director's~~ secretary's  
48 direction be required to give security for costs;

49 (p) To delegate authority to the ~~director's~~ secretary's employees and agents to perform all  
50 functions of the ~~director~~ secretary; ~~except the making of final decisions in adjudications~~

51 (q) To ~~submit an annual report~~ make available to the Governor, the Legislature and the  
52 public ~~sixty days before the Governor is required to submit an annual budget report to the~~  
53 Legislature at all times online access through the Office of Health Facility Licensure and  
54 Certification website the following information. The report shall online information will describe the  
55 licensing and investigatory activities of the department during the year ~~and the nature and status~~  
56 ~~of other activities of the department, and may include comment on the acts, policies, practices or~~  
57 ~~procedures of any public or private agency that effect the rights, health or welfare of residents of~~  
58 ~~nursing homes~~ The annual report shall online information will include a list of all nursing homes  
59 in the state, whether such homes are proprietary or nonproprietary; the name of the ~~owner or~~  
60 ~~owners~~ administrator or administrators; the total number of beds; ~~the number of private and~~  
61 ~~semiprivate rooms; the costs per diem for private residents; the number of full-time employees~~  
62 ~~and their professions; recreational programs; services and programs available as well as the costs~~  
63 ~~thereof~~ the legal name of the facility; state identification number; health investigations information  
64 and reports; life safety investigations information and reports; and whether or not those nursing  
65 homes listed accept Medicare and Medicaid residents; ~~The report shall also contain the~~  
66 ~~department's recommendations as to changes in law or policy which it deems necessary or~~  
67 ~~appropriate for the protection of the rights, health or welfare of residents of nursing homes in the~~

68 ~~state and~~

69 (r) To establish a formal process for licensed facilities to file complaints about the ~~survey~~  
70 ~~inspection~~ process or ~~surveyors~~ inspectors, and

71 ~~(s) To establish a committee to study and make a recommendation to the Legislature on~~  
72 ~~a central reporting system for allegations of abuse~~

**ARTICLE 5D. ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCES.**

**§16-5D-2. Definitions.**

1 (a) As used in this article, unless a different meaning appears from the context:

2 (1) "Assisted living residence" means any living facility, residence or place of  
3 accommodation, however named, available for four or more residents, in this state which is  
4 advertised, offered, maintained or operated by the ownership or management, whether for a  
5 consideration or not, for the express or implied purpose of having personal assistance or  
6 supervision, or both, provided to any residents therein who are dependent upon the services of  
7 others by reason of physical or mental impairment and who may also require nursing care at a  
8 level that is not greater than limited and intermittent nursing care: *Provided*, That the care or  
9 treatment in a household, whether for compensation or not, of any person related by blood or  
10 marriage, within the degree of consanguinity of second cousin to the head of the household, or  
11 his or her spouse, may not be deemed to constitute an assisted living residence within the  
12 meaning of this article. Nothing contained in this article applies to hospitals, as defined under §16-  
13 5B-1 of this code; or state institutions, as defined under §25-1-3 or §27-1-6 of this code; or  
14 ~~personal~~ residential care homes operated by the federal government or the state; or institutions  
15 operated for the treatment and care of alcoholic patients; or offices of physicians; or hotels,  
16 boarding homes or other similar places that furnish to their guests only room and board; or to  
17 homes or asylums operated by fraternal orders pursuant to §35-3-1 *et seq.* of this code;

18 (2) "Deficiency" means a statement of the rule and the fact that compliance has not been  
19 established and the reasons therefor;

20 (3) "Department" means the state Department of Health and Human Resources;

21 (4) "Director" means the director of the Office of Health Facility Licensure and Certification  
22 within the Office of the Inspector General.

23 ~~(4)~~ (5) "Division" means the ~~Bureau for Public Health~~ Office of Health Facility Licensure  
24 and Certification within the Office of the Inspector General of the state Department of Health and  
25 Human Resources;

26 ~~(5)~~ (6) "Limited and intermittent nursing care" means direct hands on nursing care of an  
27 individual who needs no more than two hours of nursing care per day for a period of time no  
28 longer than 90 consecutive days per episode: *Provided*, That such time limitations shall not apply  
29 to an individual who, after having established a residence in an assisted living residence,  
30 subsequently qualifies for and receives services coordinated by a licensed hospice and such time  
31 limitations shall not apply to home health services provided by a Medicare-certified home health  
32 agency. Limited and intermittent nursing care may only be provided by or under the supervision  
33 of a registered professional nurse and in accordance with rules proposed by the secretary for  
34 legislative approval in accordance with the provisions of §29A-3-1 *et seq.*;

35 ~~(6)~~ (7) "Nursing care" means those procedures commonly employed in providing for the  
36 physical, emotional and rehabilitational needs of the ill or otherwise incapacitated which require  
37 technical skills and knowledge beyond that which the untrained person possesses, including, but  
38 not limited to, such procedures as: Irrigations, catheterization, special procedures contributing to  
39 rehabilitation and administration of medication by any method which involves a level of complexity  
40 and skill in administration not possessed by the untrained person;

41 ~~(7)~~ (8) "Person" means an individual and every form of organization, whether incorporated  
42 or unincorporated, including any partnership, corporation, trust, association or political subdivision  
43 of the state;

44 ~~(8)~~ (9) "Personal assistance" means personal services, including, but not limited to, the  
45 following: Help in walking, bathing, dressing, feeding or getting in or out of bed, or supervision

46 required because of the age or mental impairment of the resident;

47 ~~(9)~~ (10) "Resident" means an individual living in an assisted living residence for the  
48 purpose of receiving personal assistance or limited and intermittent nursing services;

49 ~~(40)~~ (11) "Secretary" means the secretary of the state Department of Health and Human  
50 Resources or his or her designee; and

51 ~~(44)~~ (12) "Substantial compliance" means a level of compliance with the rules such that  
52 identified deficiencies pose no greater risk to resident health or safety than the potential for  
53 causing minimal harm.

54 (b) The secretary may define in rules any term used herein which is not expressly defined.

**§16-5D-3. Powers, duties, and rights of secretary.**

1 In the administration of this article, the secretary has the following powers, duties and  
2 rights:

3 (a) To enforce rules and standards for assisted living residences which are adopted,  
4 promulgated, amended or modified by the secretary;

5 (b) To exercise as sole authority all powers relating to the issuance, suspension and  
6 revocation of licenses of assisted living residences;

7 (c) To enforce rules adopted, promulgated, amended or modified by the secretary  
8 governing the qualification of applicants for assisted living residences, including, but not limited  
9 to, educational requirements, financial requirements, personal and ethical requirements;

10 (d) To receive and disburse federal funds and to take whatever action not contrary to law  
11 as may be proper and necessary to comply with the requirements and conditions for the receipt  
12 of federal funds;

13 (e) To receive and disburse for authorized purposes any moneys appropriated for the  
14 division by the Legislature;

15 (f) To receive and disburse for purposes authorized by this article, any funds that may  
16 come to the division by gift, grant, donation, bequest or devise, according to the terms thereof, as

17 well as funds derived from the division's operation or otherwise;

18 (g) To make contracts and to execute all instruments necessary or convenient in carrying  
19 out the secretary's functions and duties; and all such contracts, agreements and instruments ~~shall~~  
20 will be executed by the secretary;

21 (h) To appoint officers, agents, employees and other personnel and fix their compensation;

22 (i) To offer and sponsor educational and training programs for assisted living residences'  
23 administrative, management and operational personnel;

24 (j) To undertake survey, research and planning projects and programs relating to  
25 administration and operation of assisted living residences and to the health, care, treatment and  
26 service in general of residents of assisted living residences;

27 (k) To assess civil penalties for violations of assisted living residence standards in  
28 accordance with §16-5D-10 of this code;

29 (l) To inspect any assisted living residence and any records maintained therein subject to  
30 the provisions of §16-5D-9 and §16-5D-10 of this code;

31 (m) To establish and implement procedures, including informal conferences,  
32 investigations and hearings, subject to applicable provisions of §29A-3-1 *et seq.* of this code, and  
33 to enforce compliance with the provisions of this article and with rules issued hereunder by the  
34 secretary;

35 (n) To subpoena witnesses and documents, administer oaths and affirmations and to  
36 examine witnesses under oath for the conduct of any investigation or hearing. Upon failure of a  
37 person without lawful excuse to obey a subpoena to give testimony and upon reasonable notice  
38 to all persons affected thereby, the secretary may apply to the circuit court of the county in which  
39 the hearing is to be held or to the ~~circuit court~~ Circuit Court of Kanawha County for an order  
40 compelling compliance;

41 (o) To make complaint or cause proceedings to be instituted against any person for the  
42 violation of the provisions of this article or of rules issued hereunder by the secretary. Such action



43 may be taken by the secretary without the sanction of the prosecuting attorney of the county in  
44 which proceedings are instituted if the prosecuting attorney fails or refuses to discharge his or her  
45 duty. ~~The circuit court~~ Circuit Court of Kanawha County or the circuit court of the county in which  
46 the conduct has occurred shall have jurisdiction in all civil enforcement actions brought under this  
47 article and may order equitable relief without bond. In no such case may the secretary or any  
48 person acting under the secretary's direction be required to give security for costs;

49 (p) To delegate authority to the secretary's employees and agents to perform all functions  
50 of the secretary except the making of final decisions in adjudications; and

51 (q) To ~~submit an annual report~~ make available to the Governor, the Legislature and the  
52 public at all times online access through the Office of Health Facility Licensure and Certification  
53 website the following information. ~~The report shall~~ online information will describe the assisted  
54 living residence licensing and investigatory activities of the division. ~~during the year and the nature~~  
55 ~~and status of other activities of the division and may include comment on the acts, policies,~~  
56 ~~practices or procedures of any public or private agency that affect the rights, health or welfare of~~  
57 ~~residents of assisted living residences~~ The annual report shall online information will include a list  
58 of all assisted living residences in the state and such of the following information as the secretary  
59 determines to apply: Whether the assisted living residences are proprietary or nonproprietary; the  
60 classification of each assisted living residence; the name of the ~~owner or owners~~ administrator;  
61 the total number of beds; ~~the number of private and semiprivate rooms; the costs per diem for~~  
62 ~~private residents; the number of full-time employees and their professions; recreational programs;~~  
63 ~~services and programs available as well as the costs thereof~~ license type; license number; license  
64 expiration date; health investigation information and reports; life safety information and reports;  
65 and whether or not those assisted living residences listed accept Medicare and Medicaid  
66 residents. ~~The report shall also contain the division's recommendations as to changes in law or~~  
67 ~~policy which it deems necessary or appropriate for the protection of the rights, health or welfare~~  
68 ~~of residents of assisted living residences in the state~~

**§16-5D-4. Administrative and inspection staff.**

1           The secretary may, as he or she determines necessary, employ administrative employees,  
 2 inspectors or other persons as may be necessary to properly carry out the provisions of this article.  
 3 All employees of the division ~~shall~~ will be members of the state civil service system. Inspectors  
 4 and other employees as may be duly designated by the secretary ~~shall~~ will act as the secretary's  
 5 representatives and, under the direction of the secretary, ~~shall~~ will enforce the provisions of this  
 6 article and all duly promulgated rules of the secretary and, in the discharge of official duties, ~~shall~~  
 7 will have the right of entry into any place maintained as an assisted living residence at any time.

**§16-5D-5. Rules; minimum standards for assisted living residences.**

1           (a) The secretary ~~shall~~ will propose rules for legislative approval in accordance with the  
 2 provisions of §29A-3-1 *et seq.* of this code to carry out the purposes and intent of this article and  
 3 to enable the secretary to exercise the powers and perform the duties conferred upon the  
 4 secretary by this article.

5           (b) The secretary ~~shall~~ will propose rules establishing minimum standards of operation of  
 6 assisted living residences, including, but not limited to, the following:

7           (1) Administrative policies, including:

8           (A) An affirmative statement of the right of access to assisted living residences by  
 9 members of recognized community organizations and community legal services programs whose  
 10 purposes include rendering assistance without charge to residents, consistent with the right of  
 11 residents to privacy; ~~and~~

12           (B) A statement of the rights and responsibilities of residents;

13           (C) The process to be followed by applicants seeking a license;

14           (D) The clinical, medical, resident, and business records to be kept by the assisted living  
 15 residence;

16           (E) The procedures for inspections and for the review of utilization and quality of resident  
 17 care; and

18           (F) The procedures for informal dispute resolution and administrative due process and  
19 when such remedies are available.

20           (2) Minimum numbers and qualifications of personnel, including management, medical  
21 and nursing, aides, orderlies and support personnel, according to the size and classification of  
22 the assisted living residence;

23           (3) Safety requirements;

24           (4) Sanitation requirements;

25           (5) Protective and personal services to be provided;

26           (6) Dietary services to be provided;

27           (7) Maintenance of health records;

28           (8) Social and recreational activities to be made available;

29           (9) Physical facilities;

30           (10) Requirements related to provision of limited and intermittent nursing;

31           (11) Visitation privileges governing access to a resident by immediate family or other  
32 relatives of the resident and by other persons who are visiting with the consent of the resident;  
33 and

34           (12) Such other categories as the secretary determines to be appropriate to ensure  
35 resident's health, safety and welfare.

36           (c) The secretary ~~shall~~ will include in rules detailed standards for each of the categories of  
37 standards established pursuant to subsections (b) and (d) of this section and ~~shall~~ will classify  
38 such standards as follows:

39           (1) Class I standards are standards the violation of which, as the secretary determines,  
40 would present either an imminent danger to the health, safety or welfare of any resident or a  
41 substantial probability that death or serious physical harm would result;

42           (2) Class II standards are standards which the secretary determines have a direct or  
43 immediate relationship to the health, safety or welfare of any resident, but which do not create

44 imminent danger;

45 (3) Class III standards are standards which the secretary determines have an indirect or  
46 a potential impact on the health, safety or welfare of any resident.

47 (d) An assisted living residence shall attain substantial compliance with standards  
48 established pursuant to this section and such other requirements for a license as may be  
49 established by rule under this article.

**§16-5D-6. License required; application; fees; duration; renewal.**

1 (a) There shall be one assisted living residence license for each assisted living residence.  
2 ~~Subject to the provisions of section seventeen of this article~~ No person may establish, operate,  
3 maintain, offer or advertise an assisted living residence within this state unless and until he or she  
4 obtains a valid license therefor as provided in this article, which license remains unsuspended,  
5 unrevoked and unexpired. No public official or employee may place any person in, or recommend  
6 that any person be placed in, or directly or indirectly cause any person to be placed in, any  
7 assisted living residence, as defined in §16-5D-2 of this code, which is being operated without a  
8 valid license from the secretary. The licensee shall be responsible for, and shall have complete  
9 control of, the operation and premises of the assisted living residence and the personal assistance  
10 and supervision provided to the residents: *Provided*, That the secretary may review any leases or  
11 any contracts, subcontracts, agreements or arrangements for the provision of on-site services to  
12 the residents of an assisted living residence to ensure the proper care, safety and welfare of  
13 current or potential residents. Nothing in this article shall be construed to prevent or prohibit the  
14 ability of a resident of an assisted living residence to contract or arrange for, and to receive,  
15 privately paid nursing care or personal assistance in addition to those services provided by the  
16 licensee, subject to the consent and cooperation of the licensee and consistent with the duties  
17 and responsibilities imposed by this section.

18 (b) Nothing in this article shall be construed to require the licensing of landlords or property  
19 owners who are not involved in the provision of supervision, personal assistance, limited and

20 intermittent nursing care or other on-site professional services for the residents of an assisted  
21 living residence or in the advertising, recruitment of residents, transportation of residents or other  
22 substantial and ongoing services for the operation or maintenance of the assisted living residence.

23 (c) The procedure for obtaining a license shall be as follows:

24 ~~(4)~~ The applicant shall submit an application to the secretary on a form to be prescribed  
25 by the secretary, containing such information as may be necessary to show that the applicant is  
26 in compliance with the standards for assisted living residences as established by this article and  
27 the rules lawfully promulgated by the secretary hereunder. The application and any exhibits  
28 thereto shall provide the following information:

29 (A) The name and address of the applicant;

30 (B) The name, address and principal occupation:

31 (i) Of each person who, as a stockholder or otherwise, has a proprietary interest of 10  
32 percent or more in the applicant;

33 (ii) Of each officer and director of a corporate applicant;

34 (iii) Of each trustee and beneficiary of an applicant which is a trust; and

35 (iv) Where a corporation has a proprietary interest of 25 percent or more in an applicant,  
36 the name, address and principal occupation of each officer and director of the corporation;

37 (C) The name and address of the owner of the premises of the assisted living residence  
38 or proposed assisted living residence, if he or she is a different person from the applicant, and in  
39 such case, the name and address:

40 (i) Of each person who, as a stockholder or otherwise, has a proprietary interest of 10  
41 percent or more in the owner;

42 (ii) Of each officer and director of a corporate applicant;

43 (iii) Of each trustee and beneficiary of the owner if it is a trust; and

44 (iv) Where a corporation has a proprietary interest of 25 percent or more in the owner, the  
45 name and address of each officer and director of the corporation;

46 (D) Where the applicant is the lessee or the assignee of the assisted living residence or  
47 the premises of the proposed assisted living residence, a signed copy of the lease and any  
48 assignment thereof;

49 (E) The name and address of the assisted living residence or the premises of the proposed  
50 assisted living residence;

51 (F) The proposed bed quota of the assisted living residence and the proposed bed quota  
52 of each unit thereof;

53 (G) An organizational plan for the assisted living residence indicating the number of  
54 persons employed or to be employed, the positions and duties of all employees;

55 (H) The name and address of the individual who is to serve as administrator;

56 (I) Such evidence of compliance with applicable laws and rules governing zoning,  
57 buildings, safety, fire prevention and sanitation as the secretary may require; and

58 (J) Such additional information as the secretary may require.

59 (d) Upon receipt and review of an application for license made pursuant to subsection (a)  
60 of this section and inspection of the applicant assisted living residence pursuant to §16-5D-9 and  
61 §16-5D-10 of this code, the secretary ~~shall~~ will issue a license if he or she finds:

62 (1) That an individual applicant, and every partner, trustee, officer, secretary and  
63 controlling person of an applicant which is not an individual, is a person responsible and suitable  
64 to operate or to direct or participate in the operation of an assisted living residence by virtue of  
65 financial capacity, appropriate business or professional experience, a record of compliance with  
66 lawful orders of the department, if any, and lack of revocation of a license during the previous five  
67 years;

68 (2) That the assisted living residence is under the supervision of an administrator who is  
69 qualified by training and experience; or

70 (3) That the assisted living residence is in substantial compliance with standards  
71 established pursuant to §16-5D-5 of this code and such other requirements for a license as the

72 secretary may establish by rule under this article.

73 (e) The secretary may deny an initial or renewal license if the information provided in an  
74 application or report is known by the applicant to be false or the applicant fails to report required  
75 information or for any other reason permitted by law or rules promulgated pursuant to this article.

76 (f) Any license granted by the secretary ~~shall~~ will state the maximum bed capacity for  
77 which it is granted, the date the license was issued and the expiration date. Licenses ~~shall~~ will be  
78 issued for a period not to exceed one year for assisted living residences: *Provided*, That any such  
79 license in effect for which timely application for renewal, together with payment of the proper fee  
80 has been made to the ~~state division of health~~ department in conformance with the provisions of  
81 this article and the rules issued thereunder and prior to the expiration date of the license, shall  
82 continue in effect until: (1) One year following the expiration date of the license; or (2) the date of  
83 the revocation or suspension of the license pursuant to the provisions of this article; or (3) the  
84 date of issuance of a new license, whichever date first occurs. Each license ~~shall~~ will be issued  
85 only for the premises and persons named in the application and is not transferable or assignable:  
86 *Provided, however*, That in the case of the transfer of ownership of an assisted living residence  
87 with an unexpired license, the application of the new owner for a license shall have the effect of  
88 a license for a period of three months when filed with the secretary. Every license shall be posted  
89 in a conspicuous place in the assisted living residence for which it is issued so as to be accessible  
90 to and in plain view of all residents and visitors of the assisted living residence.

91 (g) An original license shall be renewable, conditioned upon the licensee filing timely  
92 application for the extension of the term of the license accompanied by the fee and contingent  
93 upon evidence of compliance with the provisions of this article and rules promulgated by the  
94 secretary hereunder; the application shall be accompanied by:

95 (1) The information required in paragraphs (A), (B) and (C), subdivision (1) of this  
96 subsection.

97 (2) A balance sheet of the assisted living residence as of the end of its fiscal year, setting

98 forth assets and liabilities at such date, including all capital, surplus, reserve, depreciation and  
99 similar accounts;

100 (3) A statement of operations of the assisted living residence as of the end of its fiscal  
101 year, setting forth all revenues, expenses, taxes, extraordinary items and other credits or charges;  
102 and

103 (4) A statement of any changes in the name, address, management or ownership  
104 information on file with the secretary.

105 (h) In the case of an application for a renewal license, if all requirements of §16-5D-5 and  
106 §16-5D-6 of this code are not met, the secretary may in his or her discretion issue a provisional  
107 license, provided that care given in the assisted living residence is adequate for resident needs  
108 and the assisted living residence has demonstrated improvement and evidences potential for  
109 substantial compliance within the term of the license: *Provided*, That a provisional renewal may  
110 not be issued for a period greater than one year, may not be renewed and may not be issued to  
111 any assisted living residence with uncorrected violations of any Class I standard, as defined in  
112 §16-5D-5(c) of this code.

113 (i) A nonrefundable application fee in the amount of \$65.00 for an original assisted living  
114 residence license shall be paid at the time application is made for the license. An average cost of  
115 all direct costs for the initial licensure for the preceding 10 facilities based on the size of the  
116 facility's licensed bed capacity shall be borne by the applicant and shall be received by the  
117 secretary prior to the issuance of an initial or amended license. The license fee for renewal of a  
118 license shall be at the rate of \$6.00 per bed per year for assisted living residences except the  
119 annual rate per bed may be assessed for licenses issued for less than one year. The secretary  
120 may annually adjust the licensure fees for inflation based upon the consumer price index. The  
121 bed capacity for the holder of each license ~~shall~~ will be determined by the secretary. All license  
122 fees shall be due and payable to the secretary, annually, and in the manner set forth in the rules  
123 promulgated by the secretary. The fee and application shall be submitted to the secretary who



124 ~~shall~~ will retain both the application and fee pending final action on the application. All fees  
125 received by the secretary under the provisions of this article ~~shall~~ will be deposited in accordance  
126 with §16-1-13 of this code.

**§16-5D-7. Cost disclosure; surety for residents' funds.**

1 (a) Each assisted living residence shall disclose in writing to all prospective residents a  
2 complete and accurate list of all costs which may be incurred by them. Residents are not liable  
3 for any cost not so disclosed.

4 (b) If the assisted living residence handles any money for residents within the assisted  
5 living residence, the licensee or his or her authorized representative shall give a bond in an  
6 amount consistent with this subsection and with such surety as the secretary ~~shall~~ will approve.  
7 The bond shall be upon condition that the licensee shall hold separately and in trust all residents'  
8 funds deposited with the licensee, shall administer the funds on behalf of the resident in the  
9 manner directed by the depositor, shall render a true and complete account to the depositor and  
10 the secretary when requested, and at least quarterly to the resident, and upon termination of the  
11 deposit, shall account for all funds received, expended and held on hand. The licensee shall file  
12 a bond in a sum to be fixed by the secretary based upon the magnitude of the operations of the  
13 applicant, but which sum may not be less than \$2,500.00.

14 (c) Every person injured as a result of any improper or unlawful handling of the money of  
15 a resident of an assisted living residence may bring an action in a proper court on the bond  
16 required to be posted by the licensee pursuant to this subsection for the amount of damage  
17 suffered as a result thereof to the extent covered by the bond. Whenever the secretary determines  
18 that the amount of any bond which is filed pursuant to this subsection is insufficient to adequately  
19 protect the money of residents which is being handled or whenever the amount of any bond is  
20 impaired by any recovery against the bond, the secretary may require the licensee to file an  
21 additional bond in such amount as necessary to adequately protect the money of residents being  
22 handled.

23 (d) The provisions of subsection (b) of this section do not apply if the licensee handles  
24 less than \$25.00 per resident and less than \$500.00 for all residents in any month.

**§16-5D-8. Investigation of complaints.**

1 (a) The secretary ~~shall~~ will establish by rule procedures for prompt investigation of all  
2 complaints of alleged violations by assisted living residences of applicable requirements of state  
3 law or rules, except for such complaints that the secretary determines are willfully intended to  
4 harass a licensee or are without any reasonable basis. Such procedures ~~shall~~ will include  
5 provisions for ensuring the confidentiality of the complainant and of any other person so named  
6 in the complaint and for promptly informing the complainant and the assisted living residence  
7 involved of the results of the investigation.

8 (b) If, after its investigation, the secretary determines that the complaint has merit, the  
9 secretary ~~shall~~ will take appropriate disciplinary action and ~~shall~~ will advise any injured party of  
10 the possibility of a civil remedy under this article.

11 (c) No assisted living residence may discharge or in any manner discriminate against any  
12 resident or employee for the reason that the resident or employee has filed a complaint or  
13 participated in any proceeding specified in this article. Violation of this prohibition by any assisted  
14 living residence constitutes ground for the suspension or revocation of the license of the assisted  
15 living residence as provided in §16-5D-11 and §16-5D-12 of this code. Any type of discriminatory  
16 treatment of a resident or employee by whom, or upon whose behalf, a complaint has been  
17 submitted to the secretary, or any proceeding instituted under this article, within 120 days of the  
18 filing of the complaint or the institution of the action, shall raise a rebuttable presumption that the  
19 action was taken by the assisted living residence in retaliation for the complaint or action.

**§16-5D-9. Inspections.**

1 (a) The secretary and any duly designated employee or agent thereof ~~shall~~ will have the  
2 right to enter upon and into the premises of any assisted living residence at any time for which a  
3 license has been issued, for which an application for license has been filed with the secretary, or

4 which the secretary has reason to believe is being operated or maintained as an assisted living  
 5 residence without a license. If entry is refused by the owner or person in charge of the assisted  
 6 living residence, the secretary ~~shall~~ will apply to the circuit court of the county in which the assisted  
 7 living residence is located or the Circuit Court of Kanawha County for an ~~order authorizing~~  
 8 ~~inspection and the court shall issue an appropriate order if it finds good cause~~ administrative  
 9 inspection warrant.

10 (b) The secretary, by the secretary's authorized employees or agents, ~~shall~~ will conduct  
 11 at least one inspection prior to issuance of a license pursuant to §16-5D-6 of this code and ~~shall~~  
 12 will conduct periodic unannounced inspections thereafter to determine compliance by the assisted  
 13 living residence with applicable statutes and rules promulgated thereunder. All assisted living  
 14 residences shall comply with rules of the ~~s~~-State Fire Commission. The State Fire Marshal, by his  
 15 or her employees or authorized agents, shall make all fire, safety and like inspections. The  
 16 secretary may provide for such other inspections as the secretary may deem necessary to carry  
 17 out the intent and purpose of this article. If after investigating a complaint the secretary determines  
 18 that the complaint is substantiated and that an immediate and serious threat to a resident's health  
 19 or safety exists, the secretary may invoke any remedies available pursuant to §16-5D-11 and  
 20 §16-5D-12 of this code. Any assisted living residence aggrieved by a determination or  
 21 assessment made pursuant to this section shall have the right to an administrative appeal as set  
 22 forth in §16-5D-12 of this code.

**§16-5D-10. Reports of inspections; plans of correction; assessment of penalties and use  
 of funds derived therefrom; hearings.**

1 (a) Reports of all inspections made pursuant to §16-5D-9 of this code ~~shall~~ will be in writing  
 2 ~~and filed with the secretary~~ and ~~shall~~ will list all deficiencies in the assisted living residence's  
 3 compliance with the provisions of this article and the rules adopted by the secretary hereunder.  
 4 The ~~secretary shall~~ director will send a copy of the report to the assisted living residence by  
 5 ~~certified mail, return receipt requested~~ physical or electronic method with verifiable delivery, and

6 ~~shall~~ will specify a time within which the assisted living residence shall submit a plan for correction  
7 of deficiencies, which plan ~~shall~~ will be approved, rejected or modified by the secretary. The  
8 ~~surveyors shall~~ inspectors will allow audio taping of the exit conference for licensure inspections  
9 with all costs directly associated with the taping to be paid by the assisted living residence  
10 provided that an original tape is provided to ~~surveyors~~ inspectors at the end of taping.

11 (b) Upon an assisted living residence's failure to submit a plan of correction which is  
12 approved by the secretary, or to correct any deficiency within the time specified in an approved  
13 plan of correction, the secretary may assess civil penalties as hereinafter provided or may initiate  
14 any other legal or disciplinary action as provided by this article.

15 (c) Nothing in this section may be construed to prohibit the secretary from enforcing a rule,  
16 administratively or in court, without first affording formal opportunity to make correction under this  
17 section, where, in the opinion of the secretary, the violation of the rule jeopardizes the health or  
18 safety of residents or where the violation of the rule is the second or subsequent violation  
19 occurring during a period of 12 full months.

20 (d) Civil penalties assessed against assisted living residences ~~shall~~ will be classified  
21 according to the nature of the violation as defined in §16-5D-5(c) of this code and rules  
22 promulgated thereunder by the secretary, as follows: For each violation of a Class I standard, a  
23 civil penalty of not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$500.00 ~~shall~~ will be imposed; for each violation  
24 of a Class II standard, a civil penalty of not less than \$25.00 nor more than \$50.00 ~~shall~~ will be  
25 imposed; for each violation of a Class III standard, a civil penalty of not less than \$10.00 nor more  
26 than \$25.00 ~~shall~~ will be imposed. Each day a violation continues, after the date of citation, shall  
27 constitute a separate violation. The date of citation is the date the facility receives the written  
28 statement of deficiencies.

29 (e) The secretary ~~shall~~ will assess a civil penalty not to exceed \$2,000.00 against any  
30 individual who notifies, or causes to be notified, an assisted living residence of the time or date  
31 on which an inspection is scheduled to be conducted under this article.

32 (f) If the secretary assesses a penalty under this section, the secretary ~~shall~~ will cause  
 33 delivery of notice of the penalty by personal service or by certified mail. The notice ~~shall~~ will state  
 34 the amount of the penalty, the action or circumstance for which the penalty is assessed, the  
 35 requirement that the action or circumstance violates and the basis upon which the secretary  
 36 assessed the penalty and selected the amount of the penalty.

37 (g) The secretary ~~shall~~ will, in a civil judicial proceeding, recover any unpaid assessment  
 38 which has not been contested under §16-5D-12 of this code within 30 days of receipt of notice of  
 39 the assessment or which has been affirmed under the provisions of that section and not appealed  
 40 within 30 days of receipt of the ~~secretary's~~ Board of Review's final order or which has been  
 41 affirmed on judicial review, as provided in §16-5D-13 of this code. All money collected by  
 42 assessments of civil penalties or interest ~~shall~~ will be paid into a special resident benefit account  
 43 and ~~shall~~ will be applied by the secretary only for the protection of the health or property of  
 44 residents of assisted living residences operated within the state that the secretary finds to be  
 45 deficient, including payment for the costs of relocation of residents to other facilities, operation of  
 46 an assisted living residence pending correction of deficiencies or closure and reimbursement of  
 47 residents for personal funds lost.

48 (h) The opportunity for a hearing on an action taken under this section shall be as provided  
 49 in §16-5D-12 of this code. In addition to any other rights of appeal conferred upon an assisted  
 50 living residence pursuant to this section, an assisted living residence shall have the right to  
 51 request a hearing and seek judicial review pursuant to §16-5D-12 and §16-5D-13 of this code to  
 52 contest the citing by the secretary of a deficiency on an inspection report, irrespective of whether  
 53 the deficiency results in the imposition of a civil penalty.

**~~§16-5D-11. License limitation, suspension, revocation; ban on admissions; continuation of  
 disciplinary proceedings closure, transfer of residents, appointment of temporary  
 management~~ Enforcement actions; assessment of interest; collection of  
 assessments; hearings.**

1 (a) The secretary ~~shall~~ will, by order, impose a ban on the admission of residents or reduce  
2 the bed quota of the assisted living residence, or any combination thereof, where he or she finds  
3 upon inspection of the assisted living residence that the licensee is not providing adequate care  
4 under the assisted living residence's existing bed quota and that reduction in quota or imposition  
5 of a ban on admissions, or any combination thereof, would place the licensee in a position to  
6 render adequate care. Any notice to a licensee of reduction in quota or ban on new admissions  
7 ~~shall~~ will include the terms of the order, the reasons therefor and the date set for compliance.

8 (b) The secretary may suspend or revoke a license issued under this article or take other  
9 action as set forth in this section if he or she finds upon inspection that there has been a  
10 substantial failure to comply with the provisions of this article or the standards or rules  
11 promulgated pursuant hereto.

12 ~~(c) Whenever a license is limited, suspended or revoked pursuant to this section, the~~  
13 ~~secretary shall file an administrative complaint stating facts constituting a ground or grounds for~~  
14 ~~the limitation, suspension or revocation. Upon the filing of the administrative complaint, the~~  
15 ~~secretary shall notify the licensee in writing of the filing of the administrative complaint, enclosing~~  
16 ~~a copy of the complaint, and shall advise the licensee of the availability of a hearing pursuant to~~  
17 ~~section twelve of this article. The notice and copy of the administrative complaint shall be served~~  
18 ~~on the licensee by certified mail, return receipt requested~~

19 ~~(d)~~ (c) The suspension, expiration, forfeiture or cancellation by operation of law or order  
20 of the secretary of a license issued by the secretary or the withdrawal of an application for a  
21 license after it has been filed with the secretary, may not deprive the secretary of the secretary's  
22 authority to institute or continue an disciplinary proceeding enforcement action or a proceeding  
23 for the denial of a license application against the licensee or applicant upon any ground provided  
24 by law or to ~~enter an order denying~~ the license application or ~~suspending or revoking~~ revoke the  
25 license or otherwise ~~taking disciplinary~~ take enforcement action on any such ground.

26 ~~(e)~~ (d) In addition to other remedies provided in this article, upon petition from the

27 secretary, the circuit court of the county in which the conduct has occurred or is occurring, or the  
28 Circuit Court of Kanawha County, may determine that an assisted living residence's deficiencies  
29 under this article constitute an emergency immediately jeopardizing the health, safety, welfare or  
30 rights of its residents and issue an order to:

31 (1) Close the assisted living residence;

32 (2) Transfer residents in the assisted living residence to other facilities; or

33 (3) Appoint temporary management to oversee the operation of the assisted living  
34 residence and to assure the health, safety, welfare and rights of the assisted living residence's  
35 residents where there is a need for temporary management while:

36 (A) There is an orderly closure of the assisted living residence; or

37 (B) Improvements are made ~~in order~~ to bring the assisted living residence into compliance  
38 with all the applicable requirements of this article.

39 ~~(f)~~ (e) If the secretary petitions a circuit court for the closure of an assisted living residence,  
40 the transfer of residents or the appointment of a temporary management, the circuit court shall  
41 hold a hearing no later than seven days thereafter, at which time the secretary and the licensee  
42 or operator of the assisted living residence may participate and present evidence.

43 ~~(g)~~ (f) A circuit court may divest the licensee or operator of possession and control of an  
44 assisted living residence in favor of temporary management. The temporary management shall  
45 be responsible to the court and shall have such powers and duties as the court may grant to direct  
46 all acts necessary or appropriate to conserve the property and promote the health, safety, welfare  
47 and rights of the residents of the assisted living residence, including, but not limited to, the  
48 replacement of management and staff, the hiring of consultants, the making of any necessary  
49 expenditures to close the assisted living residence or to repair or improve the assisted living  
50 residence so as to return it to compliance with applicable requirements and the power to receive,  
51 conserve and expend funds, including payments on behalf of the licensee or operator of the  
52 assisted living residence. Priority shall be given to expenditures for current direct resident care or

53 the transfer of residents.

54 ~~(h)~~ (g) The person charged with temporary management:

55 ~~(i)~~ (1) Shall be an officer of the court;

56 ~~(ii)~~ (2) ~~Shall~~ be paid by the licensee;

57 ~~(iii)~~ (3) ~~Is~~ not liable for conditions at the assisted living residence which existed or  
58 originated prior to his or her appointment; and

59 ~~(iv)~~ (4) Is not personally liable, except for his or her own gross negligence and intentional  
60 acts which result in injuries to persons or damage to property at the assisted living residence  
61 during his or her temporary management.

62 ~~(i)~~ (h) No person may impede the operation of temporary management. There shall be an  
63 automatic stay for a 90-day period subsequent to the establishment of temporary management of  
64 any action that would interfere with the functioning of the assisted living residence, including, but  
65 not limited to, cancellation of insurance policies, termination of utility services, attachments to  
66 working capital accounts, foreclosures, evictions and repossessions of equipment used in the  
67 assisted living residence.

68 ~~(j)~~ (i) A temporary management established for the purpose of making improvements ~~in~~  
69 ~~order~~ to bring the assisted living residence into compliance with applicable requirements may not  
70 be terminated until the court has determined that the assisted living residence has the  
71 management capability to ensure continued compliance with all applicable requirements, except  
72 if the court has not made such determination within six months of the establishment of the  
73 temporary management, the temporary management terminates by operation of law at that time  
74 and the assisted living residence shall be closed. After the termination of the temporary  
75 management, the person who was responsible for the temporary management shall make an  
76 accounting to the court and after deducting from receipts the costs of the temporary management,  
77 expenditures and civil penalties and interest no longer subject to appeal, in that order, any excess  
78 shall be paid to the licensee or operator of the assisted living residence.



79           ~~(k)~~ (j) The assessments for penalties and for costs of actions taken under this article shall  
 80 have interest assessed at five percent per ~~annum~~ year beginning 30 days after receipt of notice  
 81 of the assessment or 30 days after receipt of the ~~secretary's~~ Board of Review's final order  
 82 following a hearing, whichever is later. All assessments against an assisted living residence that  
 83 are unpaid shall be added to the assisted living residence's licensure fee and may be filed as a  
 84 lien against the property of the licensee or operator of the assisted living residence. Funds  
 85 received from assessments shall be deposited as funds received as provided in §16-5D-10 of this  
 86 code.

87           ~~(l)~~ The ~~secretary shall have the power to promulgate emergency rules that expand the~~  
 88 ~~power of the secretary in excess of that provided in this article to the extent required to comply~~  
 89 ~~with federal requirements, but any such rules shall expand the power of the secretary to the~~  
 90 ~~minimum extent required by federal requirements. The rules are subject to the provisions of article~~  
 91 ~~three, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code~~

92           ~~(m)~~ (k) The opportunity for a hearing on an action by the secretary taken under this section  
 93 shall be as provided in §16-5D-12 of this code.

**§16-5D-12. ~~Administrative appeals for civil assessments~~ License denial; limitation,  
 suspension or revocation.**

1           ~~(a) Any licensee or applicant aggrieved by an order issued pursuant to sections five, six,~~  
 2 ~~ten or eleven of this article may request a formal or informal hearing with the secretary or program~~  
 3 ~~manager in order to contest the order as contrary to law or unwarranted by the facts or both. If~~  
 4 ~~the contested matter is not resolved at the informal hearing, the licensee or applicant may request~~  
 5 ~~a formal hearing before the secretary. An informal hearing is not a prerequisite for requesting a~~  
 6 ~~formal hearing~~ The secretary will deny, limit, suspend, or revoke a license issued pursuant to this  
 7 article if the provisions of this article or of the rules promulgated pursuant to this article are  
 8 violated. The secretary may revoke a program's license and prohibit all licensed disciplines  
 9 associated with the assisted living residence from practicing at the assisted living residence based

10 upon an annual, periodic, complaint, verification, or other inspection and evaluation.

11 ~~(b) Informal hearings shall be held within twenty business days of the secretary's receipt~~  
12 ~~of timely request for appeal unless the licensee or applicant consents to a postponement or~~  
13 ~~continuance. In no event may the informal hearing occur more than thirty business days after the~~  
14 ~~secretary receives a timely request for appeal. Neither the licensee or applicant nor the secretary~~  
15 ~~may be represented by an attorney at the informal hearing. Within ten business days of the~~  
16 ~~conclusion of the informal hearing, the secretary, program manager or designee shall issue an~~  
17 ~~informal hearing order, including the basis for the decision. If the order is not favorable to the~~  
18 ~~licensee or applicant, the licensee or applicant may request an appeal and a formal hearing. The~~  
19 ~~secretary shall notify the administrative hearing examiner of the request for appeal within five~~  
20 ~~business days of receiving the request for an appeal and a formal hearing Before any such license~~  
21 ~~is denied, limited, suspended, or revoked, written notice will be given to the licensee, stating the~~  
22 ~~grounds for such denial, limitation, suspension, or revocation.~~

23 ~~(c) If the applicant or licensee requests a formal hearing without a prior informal hearing~~  
24 ~~or if an applicant or licensee appeals the order issued as a result of the informal hearing, the~~  
25 ~~secretary shall proceed in accordance with the department's rules of procedure for contested case~~  
26 ~~hearings and declaratory rulings and the pertinent provisions of article five, chapter twenty-nine-~~  
27 ~~a of this code An applicant or licensee has 10 working days after receipt of the secretary's order~~  
28 ~~denying, limiting, suspending, or revoking a license to request a formal hearing contesting the~~  
29 ~~denial, limitation, suspension, or revocation under this article. If a formal hearing is requested, the~~  
30 ~~applicant or licensee and the secretary shall proceed in accordance with the provisions of §29A-~~  
31 ~~5-1 et seq. of this code.~~

32 ~~(d) Following a formal hearing, the secretary shall make and enter a written order either~~  
33 ~~dismissing the complaint or taking other action as is authorized in this article. The written order of~~  
34 ~~the secretary shall be accompanied by findings of fact and conclusions of law as specified in~~  
35 ~~section three, article five, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code and a copy of the order and~~

36 ~~accompanying findings and conclusions shall be served upon the licensee and his or her attorney~~  
37 ~~of record, if any, by certified mail, return receipt requested. If the secretary suspends an assisted~~  
38 ~~living residence's license, the order shall also specify the conditions giving rise to the suspension~~  
39 ~~to be corrected by the licensee during the period of suspension in order to entitle the licensee to~~  
40 ~~reinstatement of the license. If the secretary revokes a license, the secretary may stay the~~  
41 ~~effective date of revocation by not more than ninety days upon a showing that the delay is~~  
42 ~~necessary to assure appropriate placement of residents. The order of the secretary shall be final~~  
43 ~~unless vacated or modified upon judicial review of the order in accordance with the provisions of~~  
44 ~~section thirteen of this article~~ If a license is denied or revoked as herein provided, a new  
45 application for license will be considered by the secretary if, when and after the conditions upon  
46 which the denial was based have been corrected and evidence of this fact has been furnished. A  
47 new license will then be granted after proper inspection, if applicable, has been made and all  
48 provisions of this article and rules promulgated pursuant to this article have been satisfied.

49 (e) ~~In addition to all other powers granted by this chapter, the secretary may hold the case~~  
50 ~~under advisement and make a recommendation as to requirements to be met by the licensee in~~  
51 ~~order to avoid either suspension or revocation. In such a case, the secretary shall enter an order~~  
52 ~~accordingly and so notify the licensee and his or her attorney of record, if any, by certified mail,~~  
53 ~~return receipt requested. If the licensee meets the requirements of the order, the secretary shall~~  
54 ~~enter an order showing satisfactory compliance and dismissing the complaint and shall so notify~~  
55 ~~the licensee and the licensee's attorney of record, if any, by certified mail, return receipt requested~~  
56 Any applicant or licensee who is dissatisfied with the decision as a result of the formal hearing  
57 provided in this section may, within 30 days after receiving notice of the decision, petition the  
58 Circuit Court of Kanawha County, in term or in vacation, for judicial review of the decision.

59 (f) If the license of an assisted living residence is denied, limited, suspended, or revoked,  
60 the administrator, any owner of the assisted living residence, or owner or lessor of the assisted  
61 living residence property shall cease to operate the facility as an assisted living residence as of

62 the effective date of the denial, limitation, suspension, or revocation. The owner or lessor of the  
63 assisted living residence property is responsible for removing all signs and symbols identifying  
64 the premises as an assisted living residence within 30 days. Any administrative appeal of such  
65 denial, limitation, suspension, or revocation shall not stay the denial, limitation, suspension, or  
66 revocation.

67 (g) Upon the effective date of the denial, limitation, suspension, or revocation, the  
68 administrator of the assisted living residence shall advise the secretary and the Board of  
69 Pharmacy of the disposition of all medications located on the premises. The disposition is subject  
70 to the supervision and approval of the secretary. Medications that are purchased or held by an  
71 assisted living residence that is not licensed may be deemed adulterated.

72 (h) If the license of an assisted living residence is suspended or revoked, any person  
73 named in the licensing documents of the assisted living residence, including persons owning or  
74 operating the assisted living residence, may not, as an individual or as part of a group, apply to  
75 operate another assisted living residence for up to five years after the date of suspension or  
76 revocation.

77 (i) The period of suspension for the license of an assisted living residence will be  
78 prescribed by the secretary, but may not exceed one year.

### **§16-5D-13. Judicial review.**

1 ~~(a) Any licensee adversely affected by an order of the secretary rendered after a hearing~~  
2 ~~held in accordance with the provisions of section twelve of this article is entitled to judicial review~~  
3 ~~thereof. All of the pertinent provisions of section four, article five, chapter twenty-nine-a of this~~  
4 ~~code shall apply to and govern with like effect as if the provisions of said section were set forth in~~  
5 ~~extense in this section~~ Any applicant or licensee or the secretary who is adversely affected by the  
6 decision as a result of the formal hearing provided for in §16-5D-12 of this code may, within 30  
7 days after receiving notice of the decision, petition the Circuit Court of Kanawha County, in term  
8 or in vacation, for judicial review of the decision.

9           (b) The court may affirm, modify, or reverse the decision of the Board of Review and either  
10 the applicant, licensee, or the secretary may appeal from the court's decision to the Supreme  
11 Court of Appeals.

12           ~~(b)~~ (c) The judgment of the circuit court shall be final unless reversed, vacated or modified  
13 on appeal to the Supreme Court of Appeals in accordance with the provisions of §29A-6-1 *et seq.*  
14 of this code.

**§16-5D-15. Unlawful acts; penalties; injunctions; private right of action.**

1           (a) Whoever advertises, announces, establishes or maintains or is engaged in establishing  
2 or maintaining an assisted living residence without a license granted under §16-5D-6 of this code,  
3 or who prevents, interferes with or impedes in any way the lawful enforcement of this article shall  
4 be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished for the first offense  
5 by a fine of not more than \$100.00 or by imprisonment in jail for a period of not more than 90  
6 days, or by both such fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court. For each subsequent  
7 offense, the fine may be increased to not more than \$250.00, with imprisonment in jail for a period  
8 of not more than 90 days, or both such fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the court. Each  
9 day of a continuing violation after conviction shall be considered a separate offense.

10           (b) The secretary may in his or her discretion bring an action to enforce compliance with  
11 this article or any rule, or order hereunder, whenever it appears to the secretary that any person  
12 has engaged in, or is engaging in, an act or practice in violation of this article or any rule or order  
13 hereunder, or whenever it appears to the secretary that any person has aided, abetted or caused  
14 or is aiding, abetting or causing such an act or practice. Upon application by the secretary, the  
15 circuit court of the county in which the conduct has occurred or is occurring, or the Circuit Court  
16 of Kanawha County, shall have jurisdiction to grant without bond a permanent or temporary  
17 injunction, decree or restraining order.

18           (c) Whenever the secretary refuses to grant or renew a license or revokes a license  
19 required by law to operate or conduct an assisted living residence or orders a person to refrain

20 from conduct violating the rules of the secretary and the person deeming himself or herself  
21 aggrieved by the refusal, revocation or order appeals the action of the secretary, the court may,  
22 during pendency of the appeal, issue a restraining order or injunction upon proof that the operation  
23 of the assisted living residence or its failure to comply with the order of the secretary adversely  
24 affects the well-being or safety of the residents of the assisted living residence. Should a person  
25 who is refused a license or the renewal of a license to operate or conduct an assisted living  
26 residence or whose license to operate is revoked or who has been ordered to refrain from conduct  
27 or activity which violates the rules of the secretary, fail to appeal or should such appeal be decided  
28 favorably to the secretary, then the court shall issue a permanent injunction upon proof that the  
29 person is operating or conducting an assisted living residence without a license as required by  
30 law or has continued to violate the rules of the secretary.

31 (d) Any assisted living residence that deprives a resident of any right or benefit created or  
32 established for the well-being of the resident by the terms of any contract, by any state statute or  
33 rule or by any applicable federal statute or regulation shall be liable to the resident for injuries  
34 suffered as a result of the deprivation. Upon a finding that a resident has been deprived of such  
35 a right or benefit and that the resident has been injured as a result of the deprivation and unless  
36 there is a finding that the assisted living residence exercised all care reasonably necessary to  
37 prevent and limit the deprivation and injury to the resident, compensatory damages shall be  
38 assessed in an amount sufficient to compensate the resident for the injury. In addition, where the  
39 deprivation of any right or benefit is found to have been willful or in reckless disregard of the lawful  
40 rights of the resident, punitive damages may be assessed. A resident may also maintain an action  
41 pursuant to this section for any other type of relief, including injunctive and declaratory relief,  
42 permitted by law. Exhaustion of any available administrative remedies may not be required prior  
43 to commencement of suit hereunder.

44 (e) The amount of damages recovered by a resident, in an action brought pursuant to this  
45 section, are exempt for purposes of determining initial or continuing eligibility for medical

46 assistance under §9-4-1, *et seq.* of this code and may neither be taken into consideration nor  
 47 required to be applied toward the payment or part payment of the cost of medical care or services  
 48 available under said article.

49 (f) Any waiver by a resident or his or her legal representative of the right to commence an  
 50 action under this section, whether oral or in writing, shall be null and void as contrary to public  
 51 policy.

52 (g) The penalties and remedies provided in this section are cumulative and shall be in  
 53 addition to all other penalties and remedies provided by law.

**§16-5D-16. Availability of reports and records.**

1 [Repealed.]

**§16-5D-17. Licenses and rules in force.**

1 [Repealed.]

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to streamline the method of sending survey reports and receiving plans of correction from nursing homes and assisted living facilities, and give providers the flexibility and efficiency of utilizing electronic mail or facsimile instead of certified mail. The amendment also updates the references to the bureau within the agency responsible for regulating assisted living facilities, the code of state rules for contested cases, and the nomenclature for certain types of care homes. The amendment also establishes the requirement for certain information to be readily available on a website, in lieu of submission of an annual report to the Legislature.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.