

SENATE BILL 704

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1lr2526
CF HB 674

By: **Senators Beidle, Augustine, and Hershey**
Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2021
Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Nursing Homes – Transfer of Ownership – Site Visits and Surveys**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Department of Health to conduct site visits
4 and conduct full surveys, within certain time periods, of a licensed nursing home if
5 the ownership of the nursing home is transferred to a person that does not own or
6 operate another nursing home in the State at the time of the transfer; and generally
7 relating to nursing home site visits and surveys.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Health – General
10 Section 19–1408
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Health – General**

16 19–1408.

17 (a) (1) **[The] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, THE**
18 Department shall make a site visit and conduct a full survey of each licensed nursing home
19 at least once per calendar year.

20 (2) Unless otherwise required by federal law, all surveys shall be
21 unannounced.

22 (b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, the Department shall
23 initiate an investigation of a nursing home complaint alleging actual harm within 10

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 business days after receiving the complaint.

2 (2) If the Department receives a complaint against a nursing home alleging
3 immediate jeopardy to a resident, the Department:

4 (i) Shall make every effort to investigate the complaint within 24
5 hours after receiving the complaint; and

6 (ii) Shall investigate the complaint not later than 48 hours after
7 receiving the complaint.

8 **(C) IF OWNERSHIP OF A LICENSED NURSING HOME IS TRANSFERRED TO A**
9 **PERSON THAT DOES NOT OWN OR OPERATE ANOTHER NURSING HOME IN THE STATE**
10 **AT THE TIME OF THE TRANSFER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAKE SITE VISITS AND**
11 **CONDUCT A FULL SURVEY OF THE LICENSED NURSING HOME:**

12 **(1) WITHIN 1 MONTH AFTER THE DATE OF TRANSFER;**

13 **(2) WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF TRANSFER; AND**

14 **(3) WITHIN 6 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF TRANSFER.**

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
16 October 1, 2021.