

# SENIOR CARE POLICY BRIEF

June 30, 2025

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## NEWSFLASH

- A [federal judge in Iowa struck down](#) two major components of the Biden administration's nursing home staffing mandate: the requirement for a registered nurse (RN) to be on-site 24/7 and the minimum staffing standard of 3.5 hours per resident per day. This decision follows a similar [ruling by a federal court in Texas](#) in April.
  - ⇒ Irrespective of the fate of this standard, federal law mandates that nursing homes have sufficient staff to meet the needs of their residents, as determined by comprehensive assessments, 24/7/365. To see the staffing levels of the nursing homes in your community, visit [nursinghome411.org/data/staffing/](https://nursinghome411.org/data/staffing/).
- The [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services \(CMS\) announced](#) significant updates to its [Care Compare website](#), which the public uses to review and compare nursing home quality and safety.
  - ⇒ **Only the two most recent health inspection results will be considered in 5-star rating calculations.** Historically, ratings have included the last three cycles. This change was made to address concerns that widespread delays in inspection timeframes rendered the third cycle out of date. [Effective 6/30/25.]
  - ⇒ CMS will **provide average five-star ratings for nursing home chains directly on Care Compare** to improve the public's ability to evaluate chain performance. [Effective 6/30/25.]
  - ⇒ CMS will **update how it calculates long-stay antipsychotic medication use** by incorporating additional data sources to improve accuracy. CMS is making this change to address concerns about inaccuracies in the self-reported drugging data currently used in this calculation. [Effective 10/29/25.]
  - ⇒ **COVID-19 vaccination metrics for residents and staff will no longer appear** on Care Compare. [Effective July 30, 2025.]

## PROTECTING LGBTQ+ RIGHTS IN SENIOR LIVING

- A groundbreaking bill introduced in Minnesota, [HF3344](#), would create a Long-Term Care Bill of Rights for LGBTQIA2S+ individuals and those with HIV, banning discrimination in senior living and home-based care. It ensures respect for chosen names, pronouns, and visitation rights, requires staff training, and offers civil remedies. Advocates call it a potential national model for inclusive care, [according to McKnight's](#).

## GET THE FACTS

- A [recent study published in JAMA Psychiatry](#) examined what happens when older adults (65+) stop taking antipsychotic medications (APs) prescribed during hospitalization for delirium. Findings indicate that "discontinuation was associated with reduced risks of all-cause rehospitalization and mortality."
  - ⇒ The study supports efforts to minimize antipsychotic exposure after discharge and suggests monitoring patients closely during transitions in care.



**June is Elder Abuse Awareness Month.** Despite federal protections, abuse, neglect, and exploitation remain widespread and underreported. In this issue of the [Elder Justice Newsletter](#), we highlight facilities cited for violations including physical and emotional abuse, failure to prevent harm, and inadequate supervision of vulnerable residents.