

# HOUSE BILL 931

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6lr2772

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By: **Delegates Hill, Alston, McComas, Taveras, Taylor, White Holland, ~~and Woods~~  
Woods, Bagnall, Cullison, Guzzone, Hutchinson, S. Johnson, Kaufman,  
Kipke, Lopez, Martinez, M. Morgan, Reilly, Rosenberg, Ross, Szeliga, and  
Woorman**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2026

Assigned to: Health

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 3, 2026

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Care Facilities – Nursing Homes – Medical Director Requirements**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a physician, in order to be designated as a medical director  
4 of a nursing home, to hold a certain medical director certification or be making active  
5 progress toward obtaining the certification; requiring ~~the Maryland Department of~~  
6 ~~Health to establish and maintain an online directory of nursing home medical~~  
7 ~~directors; each nursing home to publish on the nursing home's website certain~~  
8 information for the medical director of the nursing home; and generally relating to  
9 nursing home medical directors.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

11 Article – Health – General

12 Section 19–1401(a) and (e)

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

16 Article – Health – General

17 Section 19–1411

18 Annotated Code of Maryland

19 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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### EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



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

**Article – Health – General**

19–1401.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(e) (1) “Nursing home” means a facility that offers nonacute inpatient care to patients suffering from a disease, chronic illness, condition, disability of advanced age, or terminal disease requiring maximal nursing care without continuous hospital services and who require medical services and nursing services rendered by or under the supervision of a licensed nurse together with convalescent, restorative, or rehabilitative services.

(2) “Nursing home” does not mean a facility offering domiciliary care or personal care as those terms are defined in § 19–301 of this title.

19–1411.

(a) **(1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.**

**(2) “MEDICAL DIRECTOR” MEANS THE PHYSICIAN DESIGNATED BY A NURSING HOME TO OVERSEE MEDICAL CARE AND CLINICAL POLICIES AT THE NURSING HOME IN ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS.**

**(3) “MEDICAL DIRECTOR CERTIFICATION” MEANS:**

**(I) A CERTIFIED MEDICAL DIRECTOR (CMD) CERTIFICATION ISSUED BY THE POST-ACUTE AND LONG-TERM CARE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (PALTMED); OR**

**(II) A CREDENTIAL EQUIVALENT TO A CMD CERTIFICATION APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT.**

**(B) (1) ~~(I)~~ Each nursing home shall designate a physician WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (C)(1) OF THIS SECTION to serve as medical director.**

~~**(II) A PHYSICIAN MAY NOT BE A DESIGNATED MEDICAL DIRECTOR AT MORE THAN TWO LICENSED NURSING HOMES.**~~

1           (2)     The medical director is responsible for monitoring physician services at  
2 the nursing home.

3           (3)     The medical director shall report monthly to the quality assurance  
4 committee on the quality of medical care at the nursing home.

5           **(C) (1) TO QUALIFY TO BE DESIGNATED AS A MEDICAL DIRECTOR UNDER**  
6 **SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A PHYSICIAN MUST:**

7                   **(I) HOLD A VALID MEDICAL DIRECTOR CERTIFICATION; OR**

8                   **(II) BE MAKING ACTIVE PROGRESS TOWARD OBTAINING A**  
9 **MEDICAL DIRECTOR CERTIFICATION.**

10           **(2) A PHYSICIAN DESIGNATED AS A MEDICAL DIRECTOR UNDER**  
11 **SUBSECTION (B)(1) OF THIS SECTION SHALL SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT:**

12                   **(I) A COPY OF THE PHYSICIAN'S MEDICAL DIRECTOR**  
13 **CERTIFICATION; OR**

14                   **(II) EVIDENCE SATISFACTORY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ACTIVE**  
15 **PROGRESS TOWARD OBTAINING A MEDICAL DIRECTOR CERTIFICATION.**

16           **(3) (I) SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, A**  
17 **PHYSICIAN WHO WAS DESIGNATED AS A MEDICAL DIRECTOR ON OR BEFORE**  
18 **SEPTEMBER 30, 2026, SHALL OBTAIN A MEDICAL DIRECTOR CERTIFICATION ON OR**  
19 **BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, ~~2028~~ 2030.**

20                   **(II) THE DEPARTMENT MAY GRANT A PHYSICIAN DESCRIBED**  
21 **UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH A TIME-LIMITED EXTENSION FOR**  
22 **OBTAINING A MEDICAL DIRECTOR CERTIFICATION ON A SHOWING OF GOOD CAUSE,**  
23 **AS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN REGULATION.**

24           **[(b)] (D)**     The Secretary, in consultation with the Medical and Chirurgical  
25 Faculty of Maryland, and representatives of the nursing home industry, shall:

26                   (1)     [Establish qualifications for the medical director of a nursing home or  
27 anyone acting for the medical director in his or her absence;

28                   (2)]    Define the duties of the medical director; and

29                   **[(3)] (2)**     Adopt regulations for the attending physicians who treat  
30 residents of nursing homes that will provide for physician accountability.

1           (E) ~~(1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A PUBLICLY~~  
 2 ~~ACCESSIBLE ONLINE DIRECTORY OF NURSING HOME MEDICAL DIRECTORS IN THE~~  
 3 ~~STATE THAT INCLUDES EACH~~ EACH NURSING HOME SHALL PUBLISH ON THE  
 4 NURSING HOME’S WEBSITE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR THE MEDICAL  
 5 DIRECTOR’S DIRECTOR OF THE NURSING HOME:

- 6                           ~~(1)~~ (1)       NAME;
- 7                           ~~(2)~~ (2)       PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS; AND
- 8                           ~~(3)~~ (3)       CERTIFICATION STATUS.

9                           ~~(2) EACH NURSING HOME LICENSED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL~~  
 10 ~~SUBMIT THE NAME OF THE DESIGNATED MEDICAL DIRECTOR TO THE DEPARTMENT~~  
 11 ~~FOR INCLUSION IN THE DIRECTORY IN A MANNER AND ON THE SCHEDULE~~  
 12 ~~DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT.~~

13           (F) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS  
 14 SECTION, INCLUDING REGULATIONS THAT ESTABLISH:

15                           (1) THE EDUCATIONAL AND EXPERIENTIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR A  
 16 MEDICAL DIRECTOR CERTIFICATION THAT IS EQUIVALENT TO A CMD  
 17 CERTIFICATION; AND

18                           (2) THE PROCESS FOR APPROVING A MEDICAL DIRECTOR  
 19 CERTIFICATION.

20           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
 21 October 1, 2026.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.