



THE PUBLIC'S COMMENTS & ODA'S RESPONSES

ODA thanks all who submitted comments during the public comment period.

Proposed adoption of new Chapter 173-51 of the Administrative Code
Period rules posted on ODA web site: June 30, 2011 to July 11, 2011
Date of this document: July 28, 2011

IN GENERAL

	THE PUBLIC'S COMMENTS	ODA'S RESPONSES
1	<p>To whom it may concern -</p> <p>As a business owner & operator of two Assisted Living facilities in the State of Ohio - I would like to share my comments regarding the recent cuts & changes to the program.</p> <p>I have based my business model around serving this population of older Ohioans who qualify for this program - I built it with my family who either lived in Ohio or wanted to return to Ohio and the growing need for lower income seniors to access affordable Assisted living options outside of nursing homes or unsafe home environments.</p> <p>We started our business in 2008 with the hope that Ohio would further embrace the necessary changes to the current AL Waiver program to truly allow its seniors to benefit from a wonderful program.</p> <p>When the offices changed this past election year and Greg Moody and his team was put in place my hopes of true change were brought to live. However I have been woefully disappointed with the recent proceedings.</p> <p>We were told that we would not receive the 3% rate cut - I waited to base budgets, give raises and proformas to banks on new projections until we were told yes or no. Once I hear the great news - I immediately put those up dates and changes into place - only to find 2 days later that was incorrect & we were receiving the 3% cut -- How am I to go back & tell employees they are now not getting a raise? Or to my banks that my numbers are now wrong?</p> <p>And my only consolation is that we will have the long awaited Presumptive Enrollment to only find it may not be til October that this will go through? How can it be that the State is able to make our rate cuts effective July 1 but something we have begged for moving in our potential residents to receive services in their homes</p>	<p>The effective date for appropriations (<i>i.e.</i>, spending) in budget bills like H.B. No. 153 is the first day of the biennium, of July 1, 2011. Unless the legislation includes language that provides a special effective date, the amendments to the Ohio Revised Code and the rules that the amended Ohio Revised Code authorize take effect 90 days later. In this case, 90 days after the Governor signed H.B. No. 153 into law is September 29, 2011.</p> <p>In reference to presumptive enrollment, please note that presumptive enrollment is not automatic. Assessors at the PAAs will be making determinations as to whether an individual qualifies for presumptive enrollment into the state-funded component of the program.</p>

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	<p>must wait another 4 months?</p> <p>We have never received a rate increase - yet the cost of living & minim wage continues to go up. We want to pay our staff fairly - we want to be an employer that provides upward mobility options and good benefits. But the State is making that very difficult to do to also serve this population the way it should be served.</p> <p>I realize your job is a difficult one - but please also understand the job our team at each building is also trying to do everyday.</p> <p>I appreciate your time.</p> <p>Please feel free to contact me with any questions you might have.</p> <p>Sincerely -</p> <p>Severine M Petras CEO Lamplight Communities Cell: 260-710-0304 Email: spetras@lamplightcommunities.com</p>	
	<p>The Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging (o4a or the Association) representing twelve Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) who serve as PASSPORT Administrative Agencies (PAAs) submits comments to the State-Funded Assisted Living Program rules: 173-51-01 Introduction and definitions; 173-51-02 Eligibility criteria; 173-51-03 Disenrollment from the state-funded component of the assisted-living program; 173-51-04 Provider certification; and 173-51-05 Covered services. The Association appreciates the opportunity to participate in ODA's rule-making process.</p> <p>The Association and PAAs applaud ODA for compliance with this legislative mandate for state-funded Assisted Living waiver option. To advance the re-balancing of long-term care options to HCBS, this rule provides access for more, older adults in Ohio to live in the most independent living arrangement appropriate for their needs.</p> <p>[The Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging]</p>	<p>We appreciate the positive feedback.</p>

RULE 173-51-01

	THE PUBLIC'S COMMENTS	ODA'S RESPONSES
1	The public submitted no comments on this rule.	NA

RULE 173-51-02

	THE PUBLIC'S COMMENTS	ODA'S RESPONSES
1	The public submitted no comments on this rule.	NA

RULE 173-51-03

	THE PUBLIC'S COMMENTS	ODA'S RESPONSES
1	The public submitted no comments on this rule.	NA

RULE 173-51-04

	THE PUBLIC'S COMMENTS	ODA'S RESPONSES
1	The public submitted no comments on this rule.	NA

RULE 173-51-05

	THE PUBLIC'S COMMENTS	ODA'S RESPONSES
1	The public submitted no comments on this rule.	NA