

Introduction

Good afternoon. My name is Richard Barry and I am a Senior Manager on the Institutional Program Team of the MassHealth Office of Long Term Services and Supports, in the Executive Office of Health and Human Services. I am here to present testimony on the emergency adoption of 130 CMR 456.00: Long Term Care Services.

Background & Summary of Changes

Regulation 130 CMR 456.00: Long Term Care Services establishes the requirements for nursing facility services under MassHealth. All nursing facilities participating in MassHealth must comply with the regulations governing MassHealth including, but not limited to, 130 CMR 456.000 and 130 CMR 450.000: Administrative and Billing Regulations.

Under the proposed amendments, a nursing facility that is newly enrolling in MassHealth after a change in ownership that meets the requirements outlined in 130 CMR 456.404(A) or 456.405(A), as applicable, and has accepted assignment of the seller's Medicare provider number may enter into a provider agreement with MassHealth for conditional enrollment pending the facility's Medicare certification for a time period not to exceed nine months from the approval date of the conditional enrollment.

At the time that MassHealth receives sufficient documentation from the facility demonstrating that the facility has received Medicare certification, the conditional enrollment will be converted into full enrollment status.

If, at the conclusion of the nine-month conditional enrollment, the facility has not yet received Medicare certification, payments to the facility will be suspended until such time as MassHealth receives sufficient documentation from the facility demonstrating that the facility has received Medicare certification. This change is intended to support a more seamless transition during ownership changes and ensure timely access to MassHealth reimbursement for eligible facilities.

The proposed amendments also remove the fixed June 1 deadline for annual Patient Needs Accounts (PNA) reports. EOHHS will now issue a bulletin specifying the deadline and submission instructions.

The effective date of the amendment is September 8, 2025.

