



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

APPROVAL # 129
CHAPTER # 768

December 22, 2021

MEMORANDUM filed with Senate Bill 1783-A, entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to directing the department of health to establish and implement an infection inspection audit and checklist on nursing homes”

APPROVED

This legislation directs the Commissioner of Health to implement an infection inspection audit and checklist on nursing homes. This will require nursing home facilities to adhere to an audit evaluation checklist based on core competencies relating to infection control, personal protective equipment, staffing, clinical care, and communication. This bill ensures that our most vulnerable citizens are receiving the best possible care, and that nursing home staff are prepared and protected. If a facility is not in compliance, the Department of Health will be required to perform continuous audits until the facility is in compliance. Nursing homes must also designate a staff member in charge of PPE and have an infection control plan. Penalties may include revocation or suspension of a facility's license under certain conditions.

Protection of residents and staff of nursing homes and other long-term care facilities is of paramount importance. The bill required modifications to ensure it can be successfully implemented, including changes to ensure consistency with federal standards, and additional time to meet operational demands on DOH. On the basis of this agreement, I am pleased to sign this bill.

This bill is approved.

Kathy Hochul