



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary

May 10, 2020

Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ)

Sender Name, Sender Title
7120 Samuel Morse Drive
Second Floor
Columbia, MD 21046-3422

Ben Steffen, Executive Director
Maryland Health Care Commission
4160 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore MD 21215

Dear Mr. Steffen,

As you are aware, on March 5, 2020, Governor Hogan issued a proclamation that a state of emergency and a catastrophic health emergency exists in Maryland, due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Based on the increased need for comprehensive care beds in skilled nursing facilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Office of Health Care Quality is requesting that the Maryland Health Care Commission apply its authority under COMAR 10.24.01.20 to grant an emergency certificate of need to Layhill Center nursing home. This approval would increase bed availability in the facility, utilizing previously licensed beds, which is needed due to the growing need of hospital beds and the need for hospitals to transfer those residents who do not warrant an extended hospital stay but require an elevated level of care.

Layhill Center nursing home proposed temporary bed increase change would allow for the re-licensing of an additional seven (7) semi-private comprehensive care beds for use by post-acute level patients at an existing certified and licensed unit. There will be an approximate cost of \$14,753 for outfitting of the rooms, to the organization to make this temporary change.

The Office of Health Care Quality recommends this certificate of need should be approved on an emergency basis, based on the information provided by the facility. These beds would be provisionally licensed by Office of Health Care Quality due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, ending 30 days after the termination of the state of emergency by Governor Hogan.

Please contact me if you have any questions at (410) 402-8101 or (443) 832-7192.

Sincerely,

David Cherry, Deputy Director of Long-Term Care Federal Programs
State of Maryland, Office of Health Care Quality