



**STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES**  
*Aging and Long-Term Support Administration*  
*PO Box 45600, Olympia, WA 98504-5600*

January 11, 2016

**AL TSA: NH #2016-002**  
**CR 103-E EMERGENCY FILING 388-97 WAC, NURSING HOMES**

Dear Nursing Facility/Home Administrator and/or Interested Parties:

In July 2015, CR 101 was filed and a letter was sent notifying Nursing Homes of proposed revisions to 388-97 WAC to assure compliance with the legislation of House Bill 1274 and Substitute Senate Bill 5600. However, by legislative mandate, a stakeholder group was convened to provide opportunity to discuss the bill and rule language and this delayed the development of the rules.

Section 7 (2)(b) of SHB 1274 states "The department shall establish in rule by January 1, 2016, a system of financial penalties for facilities out of compliance with minimum staffing standards." As a result of the delay in rule development, emergency rules have been filed to assure compliance with the January 1, 2016 requirement.

The CR-103E document can be found on the Aging and Long-Term Support Administration (AL TSA) internet website at <http://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/residential-care-services/information-nursing-home-professionals> under "NH Rule Filings". The revised rules will become effective on January 1, 2016 and are published in the Washington State Register as WSR 16-02-043.

Please check the AL TSA website to review the emergency rule language. For rule making questions, please contact Amy Abbott, Nursing Home Policy Program Manager, (360) 725-2581.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the health and safety of nursing home residents. If you have any questions, please contact your local Field Manager.

Sincerely,

Candace Goehring, Director  
Residential Care Services

*"Transforming Lives"*