

# LeadingAge™ Wyoming

January 24, 2025

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## In This Issue

- Wyoming Legislative Update
- Revised LTC Surveyor Guidance
- LeadingAge Action Alert
- Activities Professionals Day
- UW ECHO in Geriatrics
- Upcoming Events

## Wyoming Legislative Update

The legislative session is off and running. It's hard to believe the first 2 weeks are complete. A lot has happened in a short period of time. One thing the LAW and WHA continue to encourage, because it makes a huge difference - Legislators need to hear from hospitals and nursing homes in their communities. Critical funding that supports hospitals and nursing homes all across the state are being cut through property tax reductions. These cuts can and will have longstanding negative impacts to the ability to provide care. See the list below for updates.

### **HB 76 - Prior Authorization Amendments**

The bill was heard in the House Labor Committee but failed to pass out of Committee.

### **HB 82 - Provider Enrollment Standards**

The bill passed out of Committee unanimously and has passed the House with only 4 dissenting votes. The bill will move to the Senate.

### **HB 96 - Prohibiting Mask, Vaccine and Testing Discrimination**

The bill passed the committee and will likely pass the House. Attempts at amending the bill to exempt healthcare and to have the state defend facilities that follow the state law but are penalized by the federal government have failed. An amendment to limit the bill to only apply to COVID-19 was successful. The WHA and LAW will continue to oppose the bill as it works its way over to the Senate.

### **HB 121 - Hospital Pricing Transparency**

The bill passed out of Committee and will likely pass the House. The bill mirrors federal transparency laws but imposes daily fines for noncompliance and creates oversight requirements for the Wyoming Department of Health. The bill is unnecessary and WHA will continue to fight the bill as it proceeds to the Senate. This is model legislation being pushed across the country by groups from outside the state.

### **HB 135 - Autologous or Direct Blood Donations**

The bill passed the Committee and is being heard by the Committee of the Whole.

### **HB 172 - Repeal Gun Free Zones and Preemption Amendments**

The bill flew through the Committee and passed the House.

### **SF 89 - Certificate of Need Repeal 2**

The bill was heard in the Senate Labor Committee and after much testimony and debate, the bill ultimately failed. The WHA and LAW made an agreement to work on solutions with interested parties during the interim and are committed to finding a solution, especially to quality of care issues.

### **SF 74 - Immunity of Drug Overdose Reporting**

The bill passed out of Senate Labor Committee and is working its way through the process on the floor.

If you need help getting ahold of your local legislator, please reach out the staff at the LAW and WHA.

## **Revised Long-Term Care (LTC) Surveyor Guidance**

Revised Surveyor Guidance: CMS is releasing the following revised guidance for nursing home surveyors:

- Admission, Transfer & Discharge, Chemical Restraints/Unnecessary Psychotropic Medication, Resident Assessment, Quality of Life and Quality of Care, Administration, Quality Assurance Performance Improvement (QAPI), Infection Prevention and Control, and other areas.
- Clarifications and technical corrections have also been made throughout Appendix PP.

Associated Training and Resources:

- Training on this guidance will be available upon release of this memorandum for surveyors and providers.
- Advance copy of the Critical Element Pathways are attached to this memo.
- Advanced copy of Appendix PP is attached to this memo.
- Revised Survey Resources will be posted on February 24, 2025.

Effective Date: Surveyors will begin using this guidance to determine compliance with requirements on surveys beginning February 24, 2025. This allows ample time for surveyors and nursing home providers to be trained on this new information.

[Read the CMS Guidance Here](#)



## **Action Alert: Tell Congress to Protect Medicaid in 2025**

Congress is preparing to pass a budget resolution to move forward on tax and spending priorities. Using the budget reconciliation process, Congressional committees of jurisdiction will be instructed to reduce spending on mandatory programs, reauthorize expiring tax cuts, and authorize other

spending priorities. Medicaid is likely to be a target for spending reductions in the coming months. Join our “Protect Medicaid in 2025” Action Alert and tell your representatives not to include cuts or harmful changes to this critical program. And for more information, read our [detailed menu of possible Medicaid targets](#).

Protect Medicaid Action Alert



# Join the UW ECHO in Geriatrics Network

for healthcare professionals and students  
as we discuss “Elder Justice”

In Partnership with the Department of Family Medicine at the Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California

## January 23rd, 2025

at noon via zoom:

### “Detection of and Response to Elder Abuse”

PRESENTER: LAURA MOSQUEDA, MD,  
FAAFP, AGSF

Save the Dates: Feb 6th, Feb 20th, March 6th, March 20th, and more!

Register this  
geriatric care  
community of  
practice today!



SCAN ME

or email  
wycoa@uwyo.edu!



Contact WyCOA to submit a geriatric case for  
consultation at [wycoa@uwyo.edu](mailto:wycoa@uwyo.edu)!

FREE CONTINUING EDUCATION OFFERED



**May 28-29, 2025**

LeadingAge Wyoming Spring Meeting  
Casper, Wyoming

**September 3-4, 2025**

LeadingAge Wyoming Annual Meeting  
Laramie, Wyoming



Wyoming Hospital Association | 2005 Warren Ave | Cheyenne, WY 82001-3725 US

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