



# THE VOICE

The e-newsletter of National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care

January 23, 2018

## Webinar on Revised Federal Nursing Home Regulations

Join us for *Making it Real: Using the Revised Federal Nursing Home Regulations in Your Advocacy* this Thursday at 2pm ET. Did you miss the Annual Conference last year but still want to attend this hit session on the revised federal nursing home regulations? If so, this webinar is for you.

Seize this opportunity to focus on key regulations in areas where issues frequently arise. Learn how to use the revised federal regulations and interpretive guidance to address common problems and promote quality person-centered care and residents' rights. Topics to be covered include: admission; care planning, including baseline care plans; visitation; rehab services; transfer/discharge; return to the facility; and facility assessment.

[Register now.](#)

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## President Signs RAISE Family Caregivers Act

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The President has signed the Recognize, Assist, Include, Support and Engage (RAISE) Family Caregivers Act into law. The bill will develop and maintain the National Family Caregiving Strategy and convene a Family Caregiving Advisory Council to advise the Department of Health and Human Services on how to recognize and support family caregivers. This Council will include federal agency representatives, family caregivers, older adults receiving long-term services and supports, and health care providers.

Read the bipartisan bill [here](#).

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## NORC Webinar on Systems Advocacy

State Ombudsmen and Ombudsman program representatives, register now for the "Systems Advocacy: It's More than Legislative Work" webinar on Wednesday, March 7th from 3:00pm - 4:15pm ET. Participants will learn what is required under the federal law and rule regarding systems advocacy. Presenters will share how they promote better care through systems advocacy at both the state and local level and how they coordinate their advocacy. Attendees will also learn about available NORC resources regarding systems advocacy.

Register [here](#).

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## Request for Information on Opioids and People with Disabilities

The [National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research](#) (NIDILRR) at the Administration for Community Living (ACL) is seeking information on Opioid Use Disorder among people with disabilities. The Request for Information is seeking input to understand: 1) whether people with disabilities have been diagnosed and are being treated for an opioid use disorder, and 2) are clinics or community organizations observing a sizeable population of

**Thursday, January 25:** [Making It Real: Using the Revised Federal Nursing Home Regulations in Your Advocacy](#), 2:00pm ET, Consumer Voice Webinar

**Wednesday, February 7:** Suspicious Activity Reports and Their Role in Identifying and Remediating Elder Financial Exploitation, 2:00pm ET, Webinar from the Administration for Community Living, Registration information forthcoming

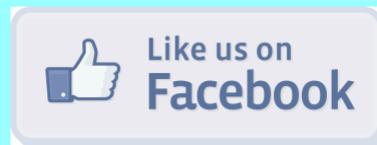
**Wednesday, March 7:** [Systems Advocacy: It's More than Legislative Work](#), 3:00pm ET, Webinar from NORC

**May:** [Older Americans Month](#)

**October 22-24:** Consumer Voice Annual Conference, Alexandria, Virginia

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**Last Week's Most Popular Post:**

**Wednesday, January 17:**  
[Long Term Care Community Coalition published a new issue alert on nursing home staffing.](#)



people with disabilities seeking treatment for opioid use disorder? If so, are current treatment strategies adequate and, if applicable, how is your organization adapting treatment strategies for people with disabilities? The information will help NIDILRR to determine further research and policies. Comments must be submitted by February 20, 2018. For more information, click [here](#).

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## LGBT Bill of Rights Comes Into Effect in California

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Long-Term Care Facility Residents' Bill of Rights in California came into effect on January 1, 2018. The Bill of Rights was a part of a bill signed into law in October. The Bill of Rights is meant to protect LGBT older adults in California from discrimination or maltreatment in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. The new state law requires facilities to refer to residents by their preferred name and pronoun and bars facilities from refusing admission, involuntarily discharging, evicting or transferring a resident within a facility or to another facility based on anti-LGBT attitudes of other residents or a person's actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression or HIV status. Along with nursing homes and assisted living facilities, the bill covers every residential care facility for the elderly. Read the bill [here](#).

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## ACL Webinar on Suspicious Activity Reports and Elder Financial Exploitation

Save the date for a webinar from the Administration for Community Living on Wednesday, February 7th from 2:00pm - 3:15pm ET, "Suspicious Activity Reports and Their Role in Identifying and Remediating Elder Financial Exploitation." The webinar will describe how federal agencies are teaming up to help law enforcement agencies and financial institutions more effectively respond to financial exploitation and how you can join in. It will also

## Last Week's Most Popular Tweet:

Wednesday, January 17:

[New alert from @LTCconsumer provides basic info on how nursing home staffing is critical to achieving quality of care and quality of life](#)

## Long-Term Care Resources & News

- [Nursing homes need improved emergency plans. But who will verify them?](#) *Tampa Bay Times*, January 22, 2018

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cover how Adult Protective Services can partner with law enforcement, financial institutions, and community based organizations to enhance a coordinated community response to financial exploitation. The webinar will also explain the [Memorandum on Financial Institution and Law Enforcement Efforts to Combat Elder Financial Exploitation](#), issued jointly by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the Department of Treasury, and the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network. Webinar registration information is forthcoming.

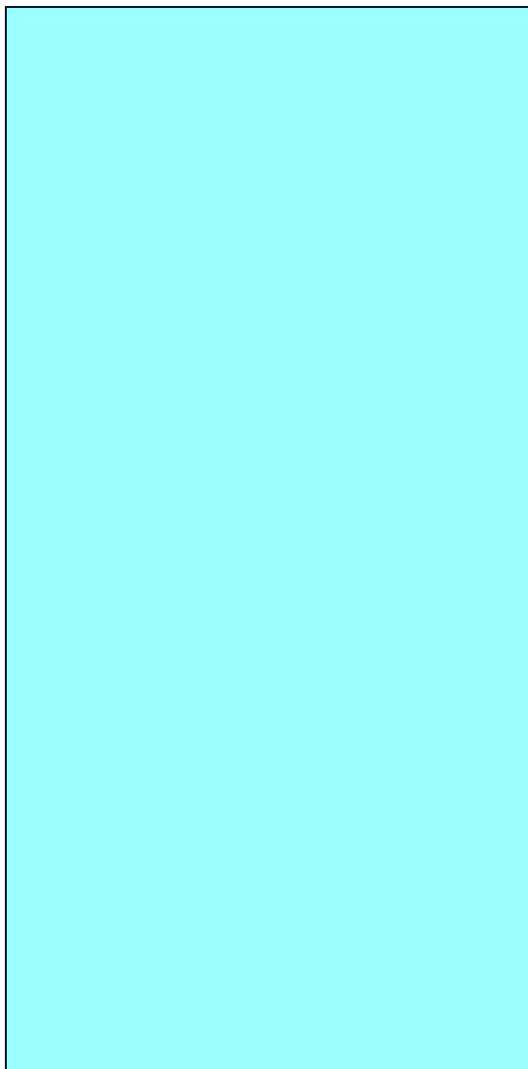
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## Spotlight on Resources

The Consumer Voice and the National Ombudsman Resource Center (NORC) have a multitude of resources available online covering a wide range of long-term care topics. Visit the [Consumer Voice website](#) and the [NORC website](#) to explore all the available resources. Take a look at this week's highlighted resource:

[LGBT Elders](#) - This NORC issue page provides information and resources related to to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) older adults.

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## About The Voice

The Voice is a weekly e-newsletter, published by the National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care. If you do not wish to continue receiving this publication, please unsubscribe below. Your contributions and comments are welcome and should be sent to [info@theconsumervoice.org](mailto:info@theconsumervoice.org). Copyright © 2018.

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Consumer Voice is the leading national voice representing consumers in issues related to long-term care, helping to ensure that consumers are empowered to advocate for themselves. We are a primary source of information and tools for consumers, families, caregivers, advocates and ombudsmen to help ensure quality care for the individual. Consumer Voice's mission is to represent consumers at the national level for quality long-term care, services and supports.

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