NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Public Health Council of the Ohio Department of Health has proposed to amend existing rule 3701-17-07.1 and to adopt new rule 3701-17-07.2 of the Ohio Administrative Code. These rules pertain to the use of properly trained dining assistants to assist certain nursing home residents with eating and drinking. This action was taken under authority of section 3721.04, 3721.28, and 3721.29 of the Ohio Revised Code. The rules are being proposed pursuant to recent changes to federal regulations that allow for nursing homes to use single task workers.

In accordance with Chapter 119 of the Revised Code, the Public Health Council, will conduct a public hearing on the proposed action on Thursday, March 4, 2004, at 10:00 a.m. The hearing will be conducted in the 8th floor conference room, Ohio Department of Health, 246 North High Street, Columbus, Ohio.

At the hearing, persons affected by the proposed action may appear and be heard in person, by their attorney or both; may present their positions, arguments, or contentions orally or in writing; may offer witnesses; and may present evidence tending to show that the proposed rule, if adopted or effectuated, will be unreasonable or unlawful. Persons intending to testify are encouraged to preregister by writing Jacqueline Vermillion, Office of the General Counsel, Ohio Department of Health, P.O. Box 118, Columbus, Ohio 43266-0118, or by telephoning (614) 466-4882.

Copies of the proposed rule are available from Ms. Vermillion or on the Department's web site at www.odh.state.oh.us. Written comments also may be submitted to Ms. Vermillion at the above address, FAXed to (614) 728-7813, or e-mailed to jvermill@gw.odh.state.oh.us, on or before March 4, 2004

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