

NHALOWG Committee Recommendations and Proposed Topics

- I. Outbreak Response and Surveillance (proposed rename) – proposed co-chairs Senator Mary Daugherty Abrams and Deputy Commissioner Aaron (DPH)

Related Mathematica Recommendations:

- Mandatory Participation of Assisted Living in the Mutual Aid Plan (LR 2)
- Mandatory infection control training for the on-call nurses in Assisted Living (LR 3)
- Expand the qualifications for infection control preventionists and expand their role to full time in nursing homes (LR 10)

- II. Staffing Levels – proposed co-chairs Representative Michelle Cook and Kate McEvoy (DSS)

Related Mathematica Recommendations:

- Ensure that facilities adopt appropriate staffing policies to minimize spread of infectious disease (SR 17)
- Increase minimum required staffing ratios; support increases in workers' pay and benefits (LR 14)
- Ensure that staff have access to guaranteed sick time under state's existing paid sick leave regulations (LR 15)

- III. Socialization, Visitation and Care-Giver Engagement – proposed co-chairs Senator Cathy Osten and Mairead Painter (Long Term Care Ombudsman)

Related Mathematica Recommendations:

- Develop an Essential Caregiver Program (SR 5)
- Ensure that facilities provide families and caregivers accurate and timely information on residents' health and well-being (SR 21)

- IV. Infrastructure/Capital Improvement Funding – proposed co-chairs Representative Jonathan Steinberg and Deputy Secretary Kosta Diamantis (OPM)

Related Mathematica Recommendations:

- Explore resident rooming options for improving physical distancing of residents (SR 15)
- Support facility efforts to redesign buildings and ventilation systems and adopt other changes to physical environment that will better limit the spread of infectious disease (LR 15)