

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 479 (HB 291)

2022 Regular Session

Edmonds

Prior law required nursing homes in the following parishes, exclusively, to develop emergency preparedness plans: Acadia, Ascension, Assumption, Calcasieu, Cameron, Iberia, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, Lafourche, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Mary, St. Martin, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, and Vermilion.

Prior law required nursing homes in the parishes designated therein to update their emergency preparedness plans annually and send plan summaries to the La. Dept. of Health (LDH). Prior law did not require LDH to approve any such plan or plan summary.

New law requires that each nursing home throughout the state maintain in effect at all times an emergency preparedness plan and that this plan be approved by LDH.

Prior law required that each nursing home emergency preparedness plan summary submitted to LDH include and identify, at minimum, the following:

- (1) A primary sheltering host site outside the area of risk, verified by written agreements or contracts and any other alternative sheltering host sites that the nursing home may have.
- (2) Proof of transportation or a contract with a transportation company, verified by a written transportation agreement or contract.
- (3) Staffing patterns for evacuation, including contact information for such staff.

New law provides that the minimum content requirements listed above shall apply to the full emergency preparedness plans of nursing homes required by new law.

New law requires nursing homes to review and update their emergency preparedness plans and submit the full versions of those plans to the LDH emergency preparedness manager for approval no later than March 1 annually.

New law retains existing law requiring LDH to prescribe criteria for evaluation of all nursing home emergency preparedness plans. Also retains existing law creating and providing for the duties and functions of the Nursing Home Emergency Preparedness Review Committee within LDH and updates the name of an organization represented on the committee.

Effective August 1, 2022.

(Amends R.S. 40:2009.25(A), (B), (C)(intro. para.), (D), (E), (F)(intro. para.), (9), and (12), and (H))