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# NDLTCA Newsletter

## November 19, 2024

**All Members - *All Members***

**Assisted Living - *AL***

**Basic Care - *BC***

**Nursing Facilities - *NF***

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# Quality



## New Salem nursing facility invests in residents' health and well-being

### *All Members*

We're thrilled to see **Elm Crest Manor** featured in a great article highlighting the exceptional quality care they provide. This recognition is part of a four-part series exploring the impact of North Dakota Health and Human Services' Nursing Facility Incentive Program.

The program, developed in collaboration with the North Dakota Long Term Care Association and nursing facilities, was approved by lawmakers during the 2023 legislative session and signed into law by Governor Doug Burgum.

To learn more about this innovative program, visit [hhs.nd.gov/nursing-facility-incentive-program](https://hhs.nd.gov/nursing-facility-incentive-program).

Check out the article on [our Facebook page](#) and in the [Governor's newsletter!](#)

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## Advocacy

### Republicans Lefor, Hogue to again lead during 2025 legislative session

*All Members*

INFORUM - By Forum staff, November 13, 2024

BISMARCK — House Majority Leader Mike Lefor and Senate Majority Leader David Hogue will keep their leadership positions during the 2025 legislative session.

Lefor, R-Dickinson, was challenged by Rep. Ben Koppelman, R-West Fargo, while Hogue, R-Minot, ran unopposed. They were reelected during the closed Republican caucus meetings Tuesday, Nov. 12, in Bismarck.

Assistant House Majority Leader Rep. Glenn Bosch, R-Bismarck, was reelected, and Rep. Jeremy Olson, R-Arnegard, was elected majority caucus leader. Rep. Robin Weisz, R-Hurdsfield, was elected House speaker.

Sen. Jerry Klein, R-Fessenden, was reelected assistant majority leader in the Senate. The Senate also kept Sen. Kristin Roers, R-Fargo, as majority caucus leader.

House and Senate minority leaders will be elected during the Democratic caucus meetings in the coming weeks.

Rep. Zach Itsa, D-Grand Forks, led the party as House minority leader during the 2023 sessions, and Sen. Kathy Hogan, D-Fargo, was the Senate Minority Leader.

Republicans maintain a supermajority with 42 members in the Senate to five Democrats and 83 Republicans to 11 Democrats in the House, according to unofficial election results.

[Read more...](#)

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## Trump's Cabinet: Here Are His Picks For Key Roles

### *All Members*

FORBES Nov 19, 2024 - Trump has reportedly chosen people for a handful of Senate-confirmed Cabinet-level jobs, and he's picked a White House chief of staff and a national security advisor, two key roles that don't require confirmation.

South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem is slated to become President-elect Donald Trump's secretary of homeland security, the latest in a flurry of appointments in the days since Trump won the election, tapping some of his staunchest defenders and loyalists for roles in the administration as others are jockeying for the remaining Cabinet positions.

[Read more...](#)

Trump has chosen North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum (R) to [lead the Interior Department](#), which manages the nation's public lands and waters.

[What to know about Doug Burgum, Trump's pick to lead Interior Department and as energy czar](#)

[Article from Governor Burgum's newsletter](#)

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## AHCA/NCAL Urges Congress To Pass Key Legislation During Lame Duck Session

*All Members*

Lawmakers Should Pass Bipartisan Bills To Protect Access To Care For America's Seniors.

[Read more...](#)

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## NCAL Continues Advocacy for the Expanding Veterans' Options for Long Term Care Act

*AL*

The National Center for Assisted Living (NCAL), along with other organizations advocating for older adults, sent collectively this week a [coalition letter](#) to the U.S. House VA Committee Chair and Ranking Member along with House Leadership. The letter encourages support during this lame duck session for movement of [H.R. 8371, the Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act](#). This comprehensive bill includes a scaled back version of [H.R. 1815, the Expanding Veterans' Options for Long Term Care Act](#). This is legislation NCAL endorses that creates a pilot program for eligible veterans to receive AL care paid for by the VA. We have advocated for H.R. 1815 during previous AHCA/NCAL Congressional Briefing fly-in events. NCAL will keep its membership apprised of any potential developments.

[Read more...](#)

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## Regulatory

### Skilled Nursing Facility Quality Reporting Program (SNF QRP)

#### *SNF*

Recently, we are hearing of increased concerns for facilities meeting MDS reporting requirements, in particular to GG0130E, Shower/bathe self. Facilities are noting decreased compliance rates due to dashing this item, due to CMS guidance.

- If the resident did not receive a bath/shower because the resident did not attempt the activity and a helper does not complete the activity for the resident during the entire assessment period, GG0130E: Shower/bathe self would be coded with one of the "activity not attempted" codes (07, 09, 10, or 88).
- If the resident did not receive a bath/shower because they were not scheduled for one during the entire assessment period, the assessment did not occur and GG0130E: Shower/bathe self would be coded with a dash (-).
- A dash value indicates that the data element was not assessed and therefore no information is available.

[SNF Guidance Training Program Q&A](#)

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## Medicare

# 2025 Medicare Parts A & B Premiums, Deductibles, and Part D Income Adjustments Released

*All Members*

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released the 2025 premiums, deductibles, and coinsurance amounts for the Medicare Part A and Part B programs, as well as the 2025 Medicare Part D income-related monthly adjustment amounts. Below are highlights of the key changes.

[Read more...](#)

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## Education

### NDLTCA Education Page

*All Members*

Visit our Education Page on our website to see more opportunities for you and your teams: <https://ndltca.org/education/>

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### Knowledge Check Training Program

*NF*

Remove the Hurdles of Required Learning with Knowledge Checks!

These innovative, short courses are designed to streamline educational compliance while cutting down the time your staff spends on mandatory training.

From new hire orientation to annual requirements, Knowledge Checks deliver engaging, concise content in just 2 to 7 minutes. Keep your team informed and compliant—without the hassle of lengthy, drawn-out courses.

**Knowledge Checks ensure you can:**

- Check Knowledge without sacrificing quality
- Learn fast with 2-7 minute courses
- Maximize training time and free up staff

[For more information](#)



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## Workforce



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# People Worth Caring About! - Nebraska Docuseries

## *All Members*

Check out People Worth Caring About, a long-term care workforce docuseries featuring seven Nebraska nursing homes and assisted living communities!

The docuseries, produced in partnership with Peter Murphy Lewis and Golden Gen Movement, will showcase the variety of career opportunities and rewards of working in Nebraska's nursing homes and assisted living communities, thanks to funding from Nebraska Health Care Foundation.

[Watch the docuseries here!](#)

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# DOL Overtime Rule Struck Down

## *All Members*

Last Friday, a federal judge in Texas struck down the "Overtime Rule" from President Joe Biden's Administration/the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) that would raise the minimum salary threshold for employees who are classified as "exempt" from payment of overtime wages under the white-collar exemptions to the Fair Labor Standards Act. Under this DOL rule, the salary threshold requirements for employees to be classified as "exempt" under the "white collar" exemptions increased in stages, with the first one that went into effect on July 1, 2024. The next increase was scheduled for January 1, 2025. [Click here](#) for the AHCA/NCAL analysis on the rule for your reference (second rule listed on the attached). Here is a [Forbes article](#) with the breaking news as well.

The Admin/DOL could possibly appeal and try to get the rule reinstated in these few remaining weeks, but the Trump administration would likely not be in favor of such an appeal.

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## Post a Job on Our Website

*All Members*

[North Dakota Long Term Care Association | Career Opportunities \(ndltca.org\)](#)

If you would like to post a job opening for your facility, please contact Stacy Irey at 701.222.0660 or email [stacy@ndltca.org](mailto:stacy@ndltca.org)



Contact us at 701-222-0660 or email Nikki at [nikki@ndltca.org](mailto:nikki@ndltca.org) or Peggy at [peggy@ndltca.org](mailto:peggy@ndltca.org).

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