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# Long Term and Behavioral Health Committee: Nursing Home Methodology Workgroup Recommendations

Recommendations to the North Carolina State Health Coordinating Council

March 2, 2016

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The Long Term Behavioral Health Committee unanimously voted for all final changes to the nursing home methodology go through the entire planning cycle for the 2017 SMFP. The State Health Coordinating Council received a summary report from the Nursing Home Methodology Workgroup at the last meeting on October 7, 2015.

The Nursing Home Methodology Workgroup met once after the October Council meeting, on November 4, 2015 with preceding meeting dates of April 10<sup>th</sup>, May 1, July 29, and September 4<sup>th</sup>. There was one Data Subgroup meeting on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The following is an overview of the Committee's recommendations for the nursing home policies and methodology, Chapters 4 and 10, of the *2017 State Medical Facilities Plan (SMFP)*.

The workgroup's proposed changes include:

- One use rate (no age groups) calculated by county with annual change rate projection of 36 months.
- Smoothing of average change rate applied to each county with substitution of the state rate at ½ standard deviation (SD) above and below the mean.
- Vacancy factor applied to bed utilization summary (95%).
- For need determinations, use of the higher between the median occupancy rate among all facilities in a county or the county weighted average.
- Alignment of all exclusions for beds and occupancy
- One hundred percent exclusion for Continuing Care Retirement Communities (NH-2) beds.
- Maximum bed need for each service area of 150 beds.
- Policies (Chapter 4)
  - Elimination of NH-1, NH-3, NH-4, and NH-7
  - Wording changes to NH-2, NH-6, and NH-8

Attached to this summary, for consideration are the draft proposed changes to both Chapter 4 and Chapter 10.