

The Academy Weekly

News & Information for LTC Providers



The Academy of Senior Health Sciences, Inc.

www.seniorhealthsciences.org

Week of 28 December 2018

Have a safe and enjoyable New Year!

The Weekly will return in 2019 on Mondays.

Ohio News

[Medicaid releases Jan 1 SNF rates](#)

[Kasich goes 1 for 3 in vetoes](#)

[GOP breaks tradition and holds informal speaker vote](#)

National News

[CMS MLN Connects](#)

Ohio News

Medicaid releases Jan 1 SNF rates

The Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) released the Jan 1 SNF rates earlier this week.

[The rates can be downloaded in Excel format by clicking here.](#) (Back to top.)

Kasich goes 1 for 3 in vetoes

The General Assembly held rare sessions this week to address bills that Governor Kasich vetoed this month. Of the three vetoed bills addressed - pay raises for legislators, gun rights, and abortion rights - only the last failed to be overturned. The "heartbeat bill" override cruised through the House and nearly made it through the Senate where it fell

short by one vote. The key provision of the "stand your ground" gun rights bill that allowed a person to stand their ground and use force when threatened was removed by the General Assembly prior to the bill's passage. Instead, the bill shifts the burden of proof for all self defense cases from the defendant to the prosecutor. The last minute change was not enough to appease Kasich who vetoed the bill because there was no "red flag" language that would allow a court order to prevent those who may be a danger from possessing a gun. The 132 General Assembly will come to a close and the 133 General Assembly will begin January 7 with a clean slate and the new DeWine administration. ([Back to top.](#))

GOP breaks tradition and holds informal speaker vote

The House Republicans broke from tradition and held a caucus meeting this week to hold a straw vote on who will be the next speaker. Traditionally, the dean of the caucus, or the longest tenured member, calls for a meeting of the members after the elections to hold an unofficial vote on who will be the next Speaker of the House. This is to allow the incoming speaker time to prepare for the upcoming assembly. Uncertainty over who will be the next speaker delayed the meeting. Rep. Ryan Smith had the majority of the caucus by one vote in November, but Rep. Jim Butler, the dean of the caucus, would not call for a vote noting that there was still no clear member that had the necessary 50 votes to become speaker. Breaking from tradition, Speaker Pro Tem Kirk Schuring called for the caucus meeting and vote this week. Only 34 of the 60 Republican members attended the meeting, with those backing Rep. Householder for speaker not attending. Rep. Smith received all the votes of those attending and took it as a move towards being speaker. However, the official vote for speaker will be held Jan 7th. It takes 50 votes to become speaker, leaving Rep. Smith still 14 votes short. Despite what other media outlets are reporting, the gavel for House Speaker is still highly contested. ([Back to top.](#))



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National News

CMS MLN Connects

There is no CMS MLN Connects newsletter this week.

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ODDS AND ENDS

UPCOMING EVENTS

Miss our CMS Region V Provider Meeting Weekly newsletter?

A special edition of *The Weekly* ran this week that contained notes from the CMS Region V Provider Meeting. Every year the SNF trade associations meet with CMS Region V survey and certification staff to discuss the biggest survey and cert issues impacting the industry. [Click here to read *The Weekly* special edition.](#)

[Nine Steps to PDPM](#)

Starts January 22

9 Webinars

Academy Discount Available!

[CMS all-cause harm prevention webinar](#)

Thursday, January 24

[Register for Provider](#)

[Gateway](#)

February 1 deadline.

[Click here to view CGS training events](#)

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The Academy of Senior Health Sciences Inc.
17 S. High St.
Suite 770
Columbus, OH 43215

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