

FATE

FOUNDATION AIDING THE ELDERLY

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State of California Department of Public Health want inspectors for nursing homes to go from “Cop to Coach”

Yesterday, (8/24/20) the Sacramento Bee published a front-page story that the powers to be at the State of California Department of Public Health want inspectors for nursing homes to go from “cop to coach”.

The article also stated that strong regulatory enforcement which has long existed may have helped bring down the virus death tolls in nursing homes...That is not what FATE has experienced...our experience is that there is that not only is there been a lack of enforcement during this virus, but this lack of protecting our vulnerable citizens has been on-going for years.

The article also stated that there have been **22,500 residents in CA nursing homes that have tested positive for the virus** with virus deaths contributing to the **deaths of at least 3,800 nursing home residents. Shocking news; however, questionable**, especially since nursing homes and acute hospitals receive extra funding for COVID patients and from what we have discovered, some tests in facilities are being conducted by nursing staff, including one facility that the secretary does the testing. Tests were shown as positive; however, when the patients were sent to the emergency rooms, it was for dehydration, malnutrition, bed sores, etc. and not because of the virus.

As with all regulatory systems in each and every state, the regulators’ sole duty is the protection of the nursing home patients and not to be a coach for the operators to do their job. If one gets a license to be a nursing home operator, it is their responsibility to know the laws and to abide by those laws, which the operator signs under penalty of perjury to do.

It is not the responsibility of government to train these operators at the expense of the taxpayers. For the State of California to come up with this “cop to coach” solution is more than ridiculous...this industry must be monitored to ensure the health and safety of the patients and becoming a “coach” and not a “cop” is certainly not the answer.

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