

## **ACTION REQUIRED**

### **AB 1946 (CORBETT), CHAPTER 550, STATUTES OF 2002**

**Affects:** Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFEs)

**Subject:** Written Materials: Use of 12-Point Font

**Summary:** This legislation adds Health and Safety Code Section 12322.1. For RCFE's, the following written materials provided to residents by or on behalf of the RCFE must be printed in at least a 12-point font that is clear and legible:

- Instructions and forms for advance health care directives (even though these materials are not produced by RCFEs).
- Information produced by an RCFE regarding the rights and responsibilities of residents while receiving care at the RCFE, including forms and instructions.
- Information produced by an RCFE regarding grievances and appeals, including forms and instructions.
- Correspondence written, printed or produced by an RCFE. [This does not include correspondence pertinent to an RCFE but written, printed or produced by another entity (for example, a national elder care organization).]

RCFEs may use existing supplies of the above documents until they are gone, or until January 2, 2006, whichever comes first. After that, RCFEs must comply with the new requirement.

Under the law, an RCFE's policies and procedures do not have to meet the requirement of being printed in at least a 12-point font.

#### **Implementation:**

This law imposes requirement of RCFEs, but it does not impose any requirements on the Community Care Licensing Division. Therefore, the following applies:

- Licensing staff should advise licensees of the law during the next site visit. However, licensing staff need not specifically monitor facilities for compliance with this law.
- As resources permit, the Department will voluntarily revise existing RCFE licensing forms to be in at least a 12-point font.