



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pennsylvania Homecare Association

STATEMENT

Harrisburg, Pa. (July 31, 2019) – Vicki Hoak, CEO of the Pennsylvania Homecare Association (PHA), issued the following statement today about Gov. Tom Wolf’s announcement of the “Protection of Vulnerable Populations” [Executive Order](#), which establishes a Council on Reform and the Office of Advocacy and Reform to protect vulnerable Pennsylvanians:

“On behalf of providers of in-home care, including hospices, home health and personal care agencies, we commend Governor Wolf for issuing this Executive Order to improve the state’s efforts to protect our most vulnerable citizens.

“For the past three years, our association has advocated and urged the General Assembly to pass legislation to revise the Older Adult Protective Services Act (OAPSA) to protect our seniors from abuse, neglect and financial exploitation in their homes. We hope that the Council on Reform and the Office of Advocacy Reform Council will join us in advocating for the quick passage of legislation to amend OAPSA.

“It is troubling that more than three years have passed since part of OAPSA was found to be unconstitutional by the Commonwealth Court, and we still do not have critical protections in place. Pennsylvania has laws in place to protect children and animals. So why have we let seniors, our most vulnerable population, go without protection?

“It is time that the Commonwealth acknowledges that this should be a top priority.”

About PHA... The Pennsylvania Homecare Association is a statewide organization of more than 700 home health, homecare, and hospice providers. PHA members provide quality care and serve as advocates for their patients and clients on a variety of healthcare related issues. PHA and its members work hard to improve professional standards and ensure access to quality homecare throughout the Commonwealth. To learn more, visit www.pahomecare.org.

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