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PRESS RELEASE
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American College of Health Care Administrators Acknowledges HHS' Policy Statement

Rockville, MD – March 6, 2025 – The American College of Health Care Administrators (ACHCA) acknowledges the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) recent policy statement rescinding the Richardson Waiver and re-aligning departmental procedures with the text of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA). As an organization dedicated to supporting nursing home and assisted living administrators nationwide, ACHCA values transparency and stakeholder participation in rulemaking that affects the long-term care community.

By rescinding the Richardson Waiver, HHS returns to the APA's statutory framework, under which "matters relating to agency management or personnel or to public property, loans, grants, benefits, or contracts" are exempt from notice and comment procedures unless otherwise required by law 2025-03300. At the same time, the Department retains discretion to provide notice and comment opportunities whenever it deems such engagement necessary and in the public interest.

ACHCA urges HHS to continue maintaining robust channels for stakeholder input and communication, especially when regulations or policies have a direct impact on providers and residents in the long-term care sector. We believe that transparent rulemaking, where administrators can share their practical experiences and concerns, strengthens both the quality and the effectiveness of federal health care initiatives. Above all, we encourage HHS to ensure that the voices of long-term care professionals, residents, and their advocates remain integral to the regulatory process, even as administrative procedures are streamlined.

ACHCA stands ready to collaborate with HHS, and Secretary Kennedy, and other partners to achieve common goals of safe, effective, and resident-centered care in all long-term care settings. We welcome additional opportunities to work with the Department to safeguard the interests of our members, the profession, and the older adults and communities they serve.

About ACHCA: Founded in 1962, the American College of Health Care Administrators (ACHCA) is the only professional association devoted solely to meeting the professional needs of today's post-acute and aging services administrator and executive. ACHCA's mission is to be the catalyst for excellence by providing leadership education, promoting professional advancement through Fellowship, and facilitating mentorship. ACHCA's diverse membership includes administrators from the post-acute, senior living, home care, and aging services care continuum.

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