

IC 16-19-17

Chapter 17. Palliative Care and Quality of Life Advisory Council

IC 16-19-17-1

"Advisory council"

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "advisory council" refers to the palliative care and quality of life advisory council established by section 3 of this chapter.

As added by P.L.43-2016, SEC.3.

IC 16-19-17-2

"Palliative care"

Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "palliative care" means patient centered and family focused medical care that optimizes quality of life by anticipating, preventing, and treating suffering caused by a medical illness or a physical injury or condition that substantially affects a patient's quality of life. The term includes the following:

- (1) Addressing physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs.
- (2) Facilitating patient autonomy and choice of care.
- (3) Providing access to information.
- (4) Discussing the patient's goals for treatment and treatment options, including hospice care when appropriate.
- (5) Comprehensively managing pain and symptoms.

As added by P.L.43-2016, SEC.3.

IC 16-19-17-3

Establishment of advisory council; members; term; staffing; voting

Sec. 3. (a) The palliative care and quality of life advisory council is established.

(b) The state health commissioner shall appoint the members of the advisory council. The advisory council must be comprised of persons with an expertise in and a knowledge of palliative care issues in Indiana as follows:

- (1) One (1) member representing interdisciplinary medical palliative care.
- (2) One (1) member representing nursing.
- (3) One (1) member representing social work.
- (4) One (1) member representing pharmacy.
- (5) One (1) member with spiritual or religious professional expertise.
- (6) One (1) member representing a patient or family caregiver advocacy group.
- (7) Two (2) or more members who:
 - (A) are either:
 - (i) licensed as a physician under IC 25-22.5; or
 - (ii) licensed as a registered nurse under IC 25-23; and
 - (B) specialize in hospice and palliative care medicine.

The commissioner may include other representatives that the commissioner considers appropriate. The advisory council membership as a whole must represent health professionals that have palliative care work experience in a variety of settings, including inpatient, outpatient, and community settings for a variety of populations, including pediatric and adults. The commissioner shall appoint a member of the advisory council as chairperson.

(c) An individual appointed to the advisory council under this section serves a three (3) year term at the will of the state health commissioner and without compensation or reimbursement for any expense that the member may incur.

(d) The state department shall staff the advisory council.

(e) The affirmative vote of a majority of the members appointed to the advisory council is required for the advisory council to take action on any measure.

As added by P.L.43-2016, SEC.3.

IC 16-19-17-4

Purpose of advisory council; report

Sec. 4. (a) The advisory council is established for the following purposes:

(1) To educate and advocate for quality palliative care by requesting that the state department, either on its own or in partnership with other entities, establish appropriate:

(A) forums;

(B) programs; or

(C) initiatives;

designed to educate the public, health care providers, and health care facilities through comprehensive and accurate information and education on palliative care and quality of life for individuals with serious illnesses.

(2) To collect, analyze, advise on, and develop state initiatives concerning the establishment, maintenance, operation, and evaluation of palliative care in Indiana.

(3) To make policy recommendations to improve palliative care and the quality of life of individuals with serious illnesses.

(4) To prepare a report not later than January 1 of each year concerning the office's findings under subdivisions (1) through (3).

(b) The report required under subsection (a)(4) must be submitted to the general assembly in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

As added by P.L.43-2016, SEC.3.

IC 16-19-17-5

Expiration of chapter

Sec. 5. This chapter expires June 30, 2019.

As added by P.L.43-2016, SEC.3.