



**Senator Shannon Jones**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Ohio Senate District**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**JONES' BILL TO BOOST NURSING FACILITY QUALITY CLEARS THE SENATE**

*SPRINGBORO LAWMAKER CONTINUES TO DRIVE MEDICAID REFORM IN OHIO*

*COLUMBUS* — The Ohio Senate passed legislation today adopting innovative, new accountability standards for nursing facilities and financial incentives aimed at improving care for residents. Senate Bill 264, sponsored by State Senator Shannon Jones (R – Springboro), was passed unanimously at today's Senate session.

When passed in June, the state operating budget called for the creation of a panel to identify accountability measures to be used in calculating and awarding Medicaid quality incentive payments for nursing facilities. The Nursing Facility Quality Measures Subcommittee was formed under the Unified Long-Term Care System Advisory Workgroup and included nursing home professionals and stakeholders, state officials, legislators and industry experts. In September, recommendations of the subcommittee were released in a report and have been incorporated into Senate Bill 264.

Among the recommendations are various accountability measures related to resident choice, clinical performance, and staffing. Rating procedures and performance thresholds have been developed to evaluate facilities based on the new measures.

“The current budget contained a number of necessary Medicaid reforms and this bill is sure to make a positive impact on the care offered to Ohioans,” Jones said. “I am grateful for the hard work of the subcommittee and remain confident that our recommendations will further connect person-centered care and health outcomes to reimbursement.”

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*Senator Shannon Jones represents Ohio's 7<sup>th</sup> Senate District, which includes Warren County and a portion of Hamilton County. She currently serves as the Senate Majority Whip.*