

Long-Term Care Survey Alert

Survey Violations: DC NURSING HOMES UNDER FIRE FOR SURVEY VIOLATIONS

Long-term care facilities in the nation's capital are the targets of a scathing congressional report.

Between June 2000 and July 2001, health inspectors found serious violations of federal health and safety standards in more than three-fourths of all 21 Washington, DC nursing homes that receive Medicare and Medicaid funds, according to a study released by Del. **Eleanor Holmes Norton** (D-DC). The report documents widespread deficiencies in 16 of the 21 homes, but no facilities had violations that caused actual or potential death or serious injury.

Washington, D.C. is currently the only jurisdiction without local laws regulating long-term care facilities. The city's mayor, **Anthony Williams** (D), vows to enact regulations that will mandate staff training, require reporting of unusual incidents and create compliance enforcement procedures, the Washington Post reports.