

Administrator Alert

*Policy updates & rule clarifications for Assisted Living,
Residential Care & Nursing Facilities*

Office of Licensing & Quality — Oregon Department of Human Services

DATE: March 10, 2010

Corrected Alert – Please disregard Administrator Alert sent on February 10, 2010. Topic: Census

Message: In March of 2010 every household in the United States will be receiving a census survey from the Federal Government. Title 13, section 221 of the United States Code requires response to the census. Although DHS policy prohibits providers from releasing confidential information, the information provides critical statistics for federal funding and programs.

SPD has worked with the Attorney General's office to clarify provider role in disclosure of information to census bureau workers.

State law does permit the disclosure of Protected Health Information if mandated by Federal Law. This disclosure does not require a signed release of information due to the Federal mandate. Providers are directed to disclose information for the individuals in care who are unable to disclose independently.

Individuals may respond on their own, if able, or with the assistance of their legal representative.

If forms are not completed and returned, a new form will be sent. If the census bureau does not receive a completed form, they will visit the location and request the information in person.

