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GOP, Kasich at odds over nursing-home performance

By Catherine Candisky

Republican leaders in the General Assembly have hit the brakes on efforts by Gov. John Kasich’s administration to improve Ohio nursing homes.

The lawmakers scaled back quality initiatives for nursing homes while giving the industry another \$60 million over the next two years.

The move is drawing sharp criticism from advocates for Ohio seniors who say lawmakers are undercutting the GOP governor’s push to raise the bar on performance measures linked to nursing-home payments.

“Increasing the revenue available for quality incentives by \$60 million over the biennium should also require nursing facilities to make more-meaningful improvements to the care our most-needy citizens receive when they are in a nursing facility,” Jane Taylor, Ohio AARP director, wrote to lawmakers this week.

“In fact, it is highly likely the measures are so easily achieved that all facilities in the state will continue to receive the quality payment.”

Article continued here: <http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2013/06/07/gop-kasich-at-odds-over-nursing-home-performance.html>

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