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Taylor Touts Successes of Common Sense Initiative

By Dan O'Brien

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio -- Last year Shepherd of the Valley Inc. faced a dilemma: it was trying to reduce the number of beds by 20 at one of its skilled-nursing centers at the request of the state of Ohio, but the state also required Shepherd to submit a certificate of need application.

The process initially proved cumbersome, slow and expensive, Don Kacmar, Shepherd executive director who is retiring Dec. 31, recalled Monday. As the application process dragged on and those empty beds remained on the books, it was costing Shepherd more in fees paid to the state – about \$200 a day.

It would have been considerably more, Kacmar said, had it not been for the Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber interceding and introducing him to the Common Sense Initiative, or CSI, a program headed by Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor that was established by Gov. John Kasich to help Ohio businesses resolve regulations that proved excessive or have outlived their original intent.

Read the full article here: <http://businessjournaldaily.com/economic-development/taylor-touts-successes-common-sense-initiative-2014-12-16>