SENATOR DELORES G. KELLEY

Legislative District 10
Baltimore County

Chair Finance Committee

Executive Nominations Committee
Rules Committee
Legislative Policy Committee



Miller Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street, Suite 3 East Annapolis, Maryland 21401 410-841-3606 · 301-858-3606 800-492-7122 Ext. 3606 Fax 410-841-3399 · 301-858-3399 Delores.Kelley@senate.state.md.us

TESTIMONY OF SENATOR DELORES G. KELLEY REGARDING SENATE BILL 507 DIVISION OF CONSUMER PROTECTION-

ASSISTED LIVING PROGRAMS BEFORE THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE February 18, 2021

Mr. Vice-Chair and Members:

Senate Bill 507 is here because of a plethora of concerns regarding significant, but unreported and undocumented cases of assisted living residents whose social security checks and/or other government pensions are under the control of the owners and/or

administrators of assisted living programs that provide room, board, and medication-management to the elderly and/or disabled

Senate Bill 507

Page 2

Marylanders who depend upon assisted living owners, managers and/or staff for management and use of social security and/or other pensions to which Maryland assisted living residents are beneficiaries.

Senate Bill 507 requires that on or before June 1st of each year, each assisted living program that was appointed as a representative payee for residents of the assisted living facility at any point during the reporting period shall report to the Division of Consumer Protection on the use of:

- 1. Social Security benefits of residents of the assisted living program facility during the immediately preceding year; and
- 2. Other federal, state or local government funds for residents of the assisted living program facility during the immediately preceding year.

Senate Bill 507

Page 3

"Assisted living program" does not include:

- A nursing home, per §19-1401 of Health General Article:
- A State facility as per §10-101 of Section 19-1801 of this article;
- A program licensed by the Department under Title 7 or Title 10 of this Article;
- A hospice care program regulated by the Department under Subtitle 9 of this title;
- services provided by family members;
- services provided in an individual's own home; or
- A program certified by the Department of Human Services under Title 6, Subtitle 5, Part II of the Human Services Article as a certified Adult Residential Environment Program.

When the Office of Health Care Quality refers an allegation of an unfair, abusive or deceptive trade practice by an

Senate Bill 507

Page 4

assisted living program to the Office of the Inspector General, the Office shall also concurrently refer the allegation to the Division of Consumer Protection of the Office of the Attorney General.

The Act shall take effect on October 1, 2021, and I ask for your support of SB 507.