

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF H.B. 636

Maryland Health Care Commission - Assisted Living Programs - Study

As an advocate for seniors and people with a disability, I was particularly delighted to see this Bill.

Assisted living programs have been a concern for me because they are not under federal regulations, as are nursing homes. Instead, they are regulated and inspected by the overworked OHCQ which does an excellent job.

Paragraph (b)(1) holds particular significance to me, as I remember an aide constantly complaining that the small facility where she worked served canned food, not fresh. She had many other complaints of poor resident care but that is the only one I remember. It was around thirty-five years ago.

This Bill encompasses many areas of study to determine if, how, and where improvements can be made. I feel sure the improvements resulting from the study will more than compensate the one-time SF expenditure of \$50,000.

As we are all facing the aging process and/or that of our loved ones, I feel certain the members of the Committee will also feel the need and give this Bill a favorable vote.

Thank you.

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