



**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
HOUSE HEALTH AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

February 22, 2024

House Bill 874: State Board of Long-Term Care Administrators - Requirements for Assisted Living Managers
Written Testimony Only

POSITION: FAVORABLE

On behalf of the members of the Health Facilities Association of Maryland (HFAM), we appreciate the opportunity to express our support for House Bill 874.

HFAM represents skilled nursing centers and assisted living communities in Maryland, as well as associate businesses that offer products and services to healthcare providers. Our members provide services and employ individuals in nearly every jurisdiction of the state. HFAM is affiliated with the American Health Care Association/National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL), which is the largest association in the United States representing long-term and post-acute care providers.

House Bill 874 extends, from October 1, 2024, to July 1, 2026, the date by which individuals must be licensed by the State Board of Long-Term Care Administrators before practicing as an assisted living manager in the State; alters the requirements for the manager training course that certain assisted living managers are required to complete; and alters the requirements for serving as an interim assisted living manager.

In 2022, HFAM supported with amendments the original legislation to rename the State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators to be the State Board of Long-Term Care Administrators and establish a licensing and regulatory system for assisted living managers under the Board. We maintain our position that it is important to further professionalize, support, and organize assisted living managers in the way we have licensed nursing home administrators for decades and with the oversight of a professional board and expanded rules of professional conduct mirroring those that have long been in place for licensed nursing home administrators.

We believe that HB 874 makes relatively small but important changes to the law passed in 2022, such as permitting both in-person courses and virtual training methods for assisted living manager training. HB 874 also pushes back the date that an individual must be licensed before practicing as an assisted living manager in Maryland from October 1, 2024 to July 1, 2026, and adjusts the deadlines requiring Board members to be assisted living managers.

For these reasons, we request a favorable report from the Committee on House Bill 874.

Submitted by:

Joseph DeMattos, Jr.

President and CEO

(410) 290-5132