

Maryland Continuing Care Residents Association Protecting the Future of Continuing Care Residents

The Voice of Continuing Care Residents at Annapolis

SUBJECT: House Bill 1034 - State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators -

Renaming and Licensure of Assisted Living Managers

COMMITTEES: House Health and Government Operations Committee

The Honorable Shane Pendergrass, Chair

DATE: Thursday, February 24, 2022

POSITION: FAVORABLE

The Maryland Continuing Care Residents Association (MaCCRA) is a not-for-profit organization representing the residents in continuing care retirement communities (CCRCs). Maryland has over 18,000 older adults living in CCRCs. The principal purpose of MaCCRA is to protect and enhance the rights and financial security of current and future residents while maintaining the viability of the providers whose interests are frequently the same as their residents. MaCCRA SUPPORTS efforts to:

- Enhance: Transparency, Accountability, Financial Security; and
- Preserve existing protections in law and regulation for current and future CCRC residents statewide.

On behalf of the Maryland Continuing Care Residents Association, we support House Bill 1034. As drafted, HB1034, among other provisions "renames the State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators to the State Board of Long-Term Care Administrators; establishes a licensing and regulatory system for assisted living managers under the Board; requires, as of October 1, 2024, an individual to be licensed by the Board before practicing as an assisted living manager."

HB 1034 that will improve the quality of care for residents in assisted living. Standards to upgrade the training and credentials of the manager of the facility is a step toward increasing quality of care.

As older adults living in continuing care communities, we have family members who reside in the assisted living sections of our communities. We see what life can be like for those of us who need additional support. We see the need for well qualified managers and staff especially in the dementia care special units. Some of us may be residents of our assisted living programs in the future.

Assisted living evolved as a social model but there is an increase in medically complex residents residing in assisted living. It is imperative that the managers of assisted living be qualified to serve in that position. Adding a license requirement for assisted living managers is a step in the right direction to improve the quality of care and service.

For these reasons we support House Bill 1034 and ask for a favorable report.

For further information please contact:

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