

Maryland Retired School Personnel Association

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House Bill 0774 In Support of

Assisted Living Programs – Unlicensed Programs – Resident Abuse and Neglect Health and Government Operations Committee

Hearing: March 9, 2023 1:00 p.m.

Dear Honorable Delegate Joseline Pena-Melnyk, Chair, and Honorable Delegate Ariana Kelly, Vice Chair, and other distinguished Health and Government Operations Committee members,

The Maryland Retired School Personnel Association (MRSPA) supports HB 0774 Assisted Living Programs – Unlicensed Programs – Resident Abuse and Neglect.

The Maryland Retired School Personnel Association believes that all seniors and other vulnerable persons should have access to high quality living arrangements that provide the highest quality of life. Senior's lives should be free from financial exploitation and abuse or neglect.

Unlicensed assisted living facilities should be monitored and investigated for abuse and neglect when it occurs. They should also comply with licensing rules and regulations and not be allowed to function without oversight. This legislation allows the state to advocate for vulnerable people in assisted living facilities and brings unlicensed facilities into compliance.

All vulnerable people in an assisted living facility and their families should be confident that they are safe and being well cared for in their time of need. No one should be abused or neglected because of where they live or of their ability to pay.

On behalf of the over 12,000 members of the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association, we urge a favorable report on HB 0774.

Sincerely,

Carla J. Duls. President

Carla J. Duls

Virginia G. Crespo Legislative Aide

Virginia D. Crespo