

Joint Finance Committee Takes Action on Long-Term Care Funding

Good Evening,

June 15, 2021

Shortly before 9:30 pm this evening, the Legislature's Joint Finance Committee passed an omnibus budget motion that would provide \$252.4 million to **increase nursing home rates** (the GPR/FED share of the overall rate) by about 12% in each year of the biennium (compared to the Governor's \$242 million and 11.5%/11.7% recommendation). About 2/3 of the first-year dollars would be targeted to the Direct Care-Nursing cost center.

For the Family Care **Direct Care Workforce program**, the Committee's motion would increase this fund by \$104.2 million, compared to \$78.2 million proposed by the Governor.

Personal Care funding would be funded at \$78.3 million, a slightly higher biennial amount compared to the Governor's proposed level.

This is GREAT News for the LTC Provider community.

The Committee hopes to wrap up its budget work on Thursday, June 17th. From there, the revised budget will be considered by the Assembly and Senate with the goal being to pass the overall budget and send it to the Governor shortly after July 1st.

We will send more information to you later but please take a minute to realize the good work that everyone has done. Congratulations on your advocacy and outreach to ensure the budget decisionmakers were fully aware of the need to address long-term care funding needs. The budget battle is not over, but this evening we are in a really good position.

Thank You!

John Sauer
President and CEO