

From: 802cove@mg2.lglcrm.net <802cove@mg2.lglcrm.net>

Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2023 12:06 PM

To: jkitchel@leg.state.vt.us

Subject: [External] Long Term Care Crisis Coalition

[External]

Dear Senator Kitchel,

Our communities depend on access to competent, reliable long-term care services.

Long-term care services support our family members, friends, and neighbors who are unable to perform basic activities of daily living such as dressing or bathing. Long-term care is provided at home, in the community, in assisted living, and in nursing homes.

Currently, our state is unable to guarantee care and services to Vermonters who are older or have a disability, due to severe workforce shortages and chronic underfunding that long predate the pandemic.

Vermont's system of long-term care needs your support to ensure access to these critical services for our neighbors, family members, and communities.

The Long-Term Care Crisis Coalition is calling on you to:

- 1. Protect services for older and disabled Vermonters by providing adequate payment for care.**
Increase long-term care reimbursement rates to bring payment in line with the cost of providing care.
- 2. Implement periodic updates to reimbursement rates to keep pace with inflation and changing market pressures.**
Establish rate schedules across the long-term care spectrum to ensure the stability and sustainability of the care Vermonters depend on.
- 3. Invest in recruiting and retaining the long-term care workforce.**
Implement the recommendations made in the Agency of Human Service's 2021 [Health Care Workforce Development Strategic Plan](#) to strengthen and grow Vermont's long-term care workforce.

The FY 2024 budget, as currently proposed, does not sufficiently address the current crisis facing long-term care in the Green Mountain state. While it contains some long-term care increases, it does not come close to providing adequate support for the full spectrum of long-term care Vermonters deserve.

The Department of Vermont Health Access has released rate studies this week that show a significant need for investment in Vermont's long-term care system.

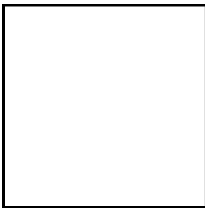
Long-term care in Vermont needs your support. Vermonters, and their family members, are counting on you to protect access to their care.

Sincerely,



AARP Vermont + Cathedral Square + Community of Vermont Elders + Living Well Group + Vermont Association of Adult Day Services + Vermont Association of Area Agencies on Aging + Vermont Catholic Charities, Inc. + Vermont Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association + Vermont Health Care Association + VNAs of Vermont

The LTCCC represents more than 200 providers of assisted living, adult day services, area agencies on aging, home health agencies, residential care homes, nursing homes, and other organizations who care for Vermonters who need long-term care services. This coalition has come together to call for greater action and unite as a sector responsible for caring for some of Vermont's sickest and most vulnerable. Information on the LTCCC can be found at www.vermontelders.org/longtermcare.



This message has originated from an **External Source**. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email.