

March 25, 2025

Dear Chair Lyons and members of the Senate Health and Welfare Committee,

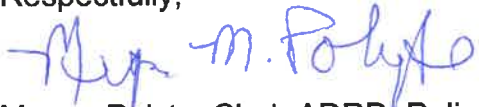
The Governor's Commission on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders (ADRD) strongly urge you to take up and support H.13 An act relating to Medicaid payment rates for home- and community-based service providers.

The Vermont Legislature established the ADRD in 1991 to provide leadership on a number of public policy matters specific to the needs and concerns of people affected by Alzheimer's Disease or a related dementia. Ensuring Choices for Care providers in the long term care system are reimbursed in a predictable and consistent way will create stability and help ensure they will continue to serve Vermonters with dementia and their families.

Older Vermonters with dementia are some of our most vulnerable and require access to services that have been perpetually underfunded. This has resulted in an inability to keep up with inflation, offer competitive wages, and reduced resources for Vermonters living at home with dementia. **H.13 proposes to establish a system that will provide legislators with consistent, reliable and objective information to align reimbursement rates with the actual cost of care.**

Supporting H.13 will help ensure all Vermonters, regardless of where they decide to age, have access to providers and services to meet their needs.

Respectfully,



Megan Polyte, Chair ADRD, Policy Director of the Vermont Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association

ADRD Committee Members

Mark Boutwell, Executive Director Senior Solutions

Neely Bryant, MSW

Alecia Demario, Executive Director Birchwood Terrace

Molly Dugan, Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives SASH

Jane Dwinell, Clergy

Kaili Kuiper, Long Term Care Ombudsman, Vermont Legal Aid

Representative Dan Noyes

Katherine Martin, Assoc. Director for Public Policy and Outreach, UVM Center on Aging

Dr. Carolyn Taylor Olson, Physicians

Simone Rueschemeyer, Executive Director of Vermont Care Partners

Andrea Stauffenecker, Program Services Coordinator, Riverside Life Enrichment Center

Deborah Wesley, CEO of Addison County Home Health & Hospice