



**House Finance Committee
February 28th 2024**

Article 9 of H 7225

**LeadingAge RI statement
James Nyberg, Executive Director**

Our comments are specific to Section 5 of this Budget Article. As a member of the OHIC Social and Human Services Rate Review Advisory Council, LeadingAge RI is pleased that the Governor's proposed budget has adopted the rate increases for a wide range of providers, including **assisted living and adult day providers. These providers have experienced the inflationary pressures that many other providers are experiencing, and are in critical need of Medicaid rate adjustments to remain a financially viable home and community-based setting as we continue our efforts to rebalance our long-term care system. We understand the rate increases are scheduled to be phased in over three years, but given the dramatic increases in the cost of caring for our older Rhode Islanders, we urge the General Assembly to expedite these rate increases as soon as possible. Thank you for your consideration of these comments.**