



May 5, 2026

House Committee on Finance  
Rhode Island State House  
housefinance@rilegislature.gov

Re: **Testimony Supporting HB 7463**, to set asset eligibility limits for those receiving Medicaid LTSS at home, and require semi-annual reporting of the number of residents served by Medicaid certified assisted living residences and adult day service providers.

Dear Chair Abney and Honorable Committee Members,

ABC-RI stands for the rights and interests of all Rhode Islanders residing in long-term care facilities. We also support **legislation that will enable Rhode Islanders to postpone or prevent the necessity of moving into a long-term care facility**. We support HB7463, which makes two practical amendments to Rhode Island's long-term care rebalancing framework.

Rhode Island's goal of directing 50% of long-term care spending to home and community-based services, established in the 2008 Medicaid Reform law, depends on people actually being able to stay in their homes. Right now, that's harder than it should be.

Under current Medicaid financial eligibility rules, a single older adult or person with a disability cannot hold more than \$4,000 in assets. A couple cannot hold more than \$6,000. Other Medicaid populations face no such restrictions. These limits were inadequate before and are untenable now. Housing costs have risen sharply. Utilities have risen sharply. When a furnace fails or an appliance breaks, \$4,000 doesn't cover it. People are forced to choose between staying in their homes and staying on Medicaid.

HB7463 authorizes the Secretary to raise resource eligibility limits to \$12,000 for individuals and \$18,000 for couples receiving home and community waiver services, and directs the state to obtain any necessary state plan or waiver authorities to implement the change. This is a direct and overdue fix. Keeping people in their homes costs the state far less than institutional care. Letting them hold enough savings to do so is not a benefit; it's a precondition.

Keeping Rhode Islanders with long-term care needs in their communities is in everyone's best interest. ABC-RI urges the committee's support.

Thank you for your time and attention, and for all of your work on behalf of Rhode Islanders.

Sincerely,  
Kathleen Gerard, ABC-RI