



April 8, 2025

House Committee on State Government and Elections
Rhode Island State House
HouseStateGovernmentandElections@rilegislature.gov

Re: Testimony SUPPORTING House Bill 6164

Dear Chair Shanley and Honorable Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of House Bill 6164.

ABC-RI stands for the rights and interests of all Rhode Islanders residing in long-term care facilities.

Long-term care resident advocates in RI are often chagrined at poor care and unsafe conditions in nursing facilities that continue in spite of current regulatory measures. As more nursing facilities in RI are acquired by investor groups, private equity, and corporations that prioritize profit over quality care, we expect to see this trend of poor care continue.

We have turned to the office of the Attorney General for help in reining in obfuscatory financial practices that result in poor care and unsafe conditions in nursing facilities, and found in some instances that their hands were tied, as the office does not have the authority to swiftly and effectively investigate and act as necessary.

We support HB 6164 because Rhode Islanders need a consumer advocate with the authority to act when our rights are violated and our health endangered.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Gerard,
ABC-RI