



STATE of RHODE ISLAND  
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GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES  
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## Legislative Impact Statement

To: Representative Donovan, Chair  
From: Elisabeth Hubbard, Executive Secretary  
Re: 26 HOUSE 7624 AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY—LICENSING OF HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

Thursday, March 19, 2026

The Governor's Commission on Disabilities' Legislation Committee has developed a Legislative Impact Statement on the bill listed below. The Commission would be pleased to present testimony to the committee. Please contact me (462-0110) if testimony is desired or for additional information.

### Legislation Committee finds this bill Beneficial

This bill would require that assisted living residences that provide dementia care units be inspected yearly as opposed to every year. Prior law did require annual inspections, but a revision in 2017 changed the frequency.

These units treat one of the most vulnerable populations in our state. The current system has not been working to prevent violations of standards. A review in 2025 of data on the Center for Medicare & Medicaid website violations found that there were 218 penalties across 74 facilities totaling \$6,740,000, making Rhode Island the second highest in penalties paid in the state. (<https://www.ltcnews.com/articles/illinois-rhode-island-new-mexico-lead-nursing-home-penalties>)

Annual inspections would incentive facilities to address deficiencies and violations sooner, making facilities safer for these Rhode Island residents.