



Testimony of Matthew Netto, AARP Rhode Island  
**In support of Senate Bill 2566**  
Senate Health and Human Services Committee  
April 28, 2026

Chairwoman Murray and members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee:

AARP is a nonpartisan, social mission organization with 38 million members nationwide and nearly 125,000 members here in Rhode Island. We advocate on behalf of issues that impact older adults, and we appreciate the opportunity to offer our support for limiting a facility's ability to charge rent and fees for a maximum of seven (7) days or until removal of the personal property from the room, whichever occurs first, as Chairman Bissaillon's Senate Bill 2566 does.

AARP Rhode Island supports this legislation because it protects families from unfair post death charges during a time of grief. This legislation also brings transparency and fairness to long term care contracts and ensures basic consumer protections apply regardless of care setting.

Senate Bill 2566 creates a clear standard for nursing home/assisted living facility charges after a resident's death. It prevents facilities from enforcing 30-day vacancy or notice fees in these circumstances and instead limits charges to the time reasonably needed to remove personal belongings, with a maximum of seven days. If the room is re-occupied sooner, fees must be prorated.

At its core, this bill is about fairness, dignity, and protecting Rhode Islanders at some of the most vulnerable moments of their lives. Senate Bill 2566 creates clear rules, predictable expectations, and basic consumer protections. It reduces conflict, prevents hardship, and aligns our laws with common-sense fairness.

We urge you to recommend passage on Senate Bill 2566.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt R Netto".

Matthew Netto  
Associate State Director-AARP Rhode Island