



State of Rhode Island
Lieutenant Governor Sabina Matos

April 28, 2026
The Hon. Melissa Murray
Chair, Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
82 Smith Street, Senate Lounge
Providence, RI 02903

RE: Letter of Support for S2571: An Act Relating To Health And Safety -- Assisted Living Residence Licensing Act

Dear Chair Murray:

I write to you in support of S2571: An Act Relating To Health And Safety -- Assisted Living Residence Licensing Act. Requires annual inspections of those assisted living residences which contain units licensed to treat residents with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

As the Chair of the Long Term Care Coordinating Council & member of the Rhode Island Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders, I work with healthcare providers and advocates throughout the state to ensure older Rhode Islanders have access to the highest-quality care possible. Promoting safe and adequate living standards at assisted-living residences are critical in maintaining proper care for the older adult population, especially those living with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias.

S2571 would increase the frequency of inspections at assisted living residences that treat residents with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias from biannual to annual, in accordance with Chapter 23-17.4-16.2 of the General Laws. Older adults living with these conditions possess unique needs, such as a high standard of staffing and caregiving, or a plan for preventing the hazards of residents wandering from the facility. Given the serious and chronic nature of these conditions, a higher frequency of inspections is necessary to ensure that the needs of Alzheimer's and dementia patients are being upheld by care facilities.

On behalf of older adults across Rhode Island and considering my experience as Chair of the Long Term Care Coordinating Committee, I urge you to favorably vote this bill out of committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sabina Matos".

Sabina Matos
Lieutenant Governor, State of Rhode Island
CC: Senator Pamela Lauria