



April 28, 2026

The Honorable Melissa Murray  
Chairwoman, Senate Committee on Health & Human Services  
Rhode Island State House  
Providence, RI 02903

**Re: S3027 SUPPORT**

Dear Chairwoman Murray and Members of the Committee:

I am writing on behalf of LeadingAge Connecticut & Rhode Island in strong support of Senate Bill S3027, An Act Relating to Human Services — Medical Assistance — Long-Term Care Service and Finance Reform — Assisted Living Services.

LeadingAge Connecticut & Rhode Island represents a broad network of nonprofit aging services providers, including assisted living communities, affordable senior housing providers, nursing facilities, and other organizations dedicated to serving older adults and individuals with disabilities. Our members are deeply committed to providing high-quality, person-centered care in community-based settings, including assisted living residences across Rhode Island.

S3027 provides a thoughtful and necessary update to Medicaid policy impacting assisted living communities. As drafted, the bill ensures that providers are not required to hold units indefinitely without compensation when residents are temporarily absent due to hospitalization or skilled nursing stays, while also establishing a fair Medicaid bed hold payment for extended absences.

This is particularly important for assisted living providers, who operate on tight margins and rely on predictable occupancy and reimbursement to maintain operations. Requiring facilities to hold units for extended periods without payment creates significant financial strain and can ultimately limit access to care for Medicaid beneficiaries. By setting reasonable limits and providing partial reimbursement beyond ten days, this legislation helps stabilize the assisted living sector and supports continued access to these critical services.

At the same time, the bill maintains appropriate protections for residents by allowing voluntary arrangements and ensuring that bed holds apply only when a resident is expected to return. This balanced approach supports both continuity of care and operational sustainability.

Assisted living plays a vital role in Rhode Island's long-term care continuum, offering a less restrictive, more cost-effective alternative to institutional care. Policies like S3027 are essential to ensuring that these settings remain viable and accessible for the growing number of individuals who rely on them.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the Committee to support passage of S3027.

Thank you for your consideration and your leadership on issues affecting older adults and long-term care providers in Rhode Island.

Sincerely,

Mag Morelli  
President  
LeadingAge Connecticut & Rhode Island