



January 20, 2023

This Week in Olympia

Budget/Funding Requests

We are working hard to submit all our funding requests, via provisos, by the deadline, February 2nd. Of note, those requests include funding to establish a workgroup to make future policy recommendations to provide additional consumer protections for CCRC residents and assisted living and adult day funding.

Skilled nursing facility statutory changes will be housed in a policy bill and the budget will then reflect the funding necessary to implement the legislation. We anticipate this policy bill to be introduced in the next couple of days. You will then be able to track the progress of that bill in the policy updates.

Bills to monitor impacting LTC

Support

HB 1431- Clarifying that meals furnished to tenants of senior living communities as part of their rental agreement are not subject to sales and use tax. This bill was formally introduced on Wednesday and is one of our policy priorities. We hope to have the first hearing within the next couple of weeks.

HB 1127- Concerning adult protective services. The Senate introduced a bill (**SB 5370**), which removed the registry removal process and focuses on only

technical fixes for APS. This will now be the primary vehicle for the legislation. We hope the registry removal process will be reintroduced at a later time as we support the idea of APS being able to consider the broad differences in the severity of cases and allow for certain people to be removed from the registry after a review.

SB 5183/ HB 1128- Raising the Residential Personal Needs Allowance. This bill had its first public hearing in the House Appropriations Committee and is scheduled for an executive session on January 25th.

SB 5202/ HB 1149- Reducing homelessness in Washington state through capital expenditures for programs that address housing insecurity. Both of these bills had their first public hearings with lots of support and wait to be scheduled for executive session.

HB 1417- Concerning the multistate nurse licensure compact. The nurse compact was just reintroduced again. We will continue to firmly advocate for Washington to join the multistate compact, but we believe it is still unlikely it will pass.

Oppose

SB 5217- Concerning the state's ability to regulate certain industries and risk classes to prevent musculoskeletal injuries and disorders. This bill is scheduled for a public hearing in the Senate Committee on Labor & Commerce on January 24th. We will be working with other partners to offer amendments to remove healthcare as a primary focus and instead have L&I create rules for higher-risk category industries first.

SB 5236- Concerning hospital staffing standards. This bill had its first hearing in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee. LeadingAge Washington signed up to testify in opposition but ran out of time. This bill will again be very controversial and consume a lot of committee time in both the house and senate.

We are still waiting for the nurse staffing agency legislation to be introduced.

Questions? Contact:

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