



## Residents News-Mail

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To WACCRA Members

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Once again WACCRA members showed up to let our legislators know that common sense CCRC regulation is needed. Over 500 of you registered in favor of Substitute Senate Bill 5691 (SSB 5691) in advance of the bill being heard in the House Health Care and Wellness Committee on Wednesday. And more of you took the extra step to log in on Thursday to provide written support. Your participation meant a lot to our team testifying in Olympia – and was noted by the Committee members.

You may not have watched the testimony so we wanted to give you the highlights of our pitch. First, we endorsed the Senate bill and commented on the importance of consumer rights for CCRC residents. SSB 5691 currently authorizes the Office of the Attorney General to use the State's Consumer Protection Act provisions on behalf of CCRC residents.

We didn't stop there though! Understanding the severe budgetary issues the State is facing, we identified several improvements to the current legislation that could be made with little to no additional cost to the State's General Fund. We asked for amendments to the Senate bill to:

**Refine the legal definition of a CCRC to require any community providing continuing care be registered with the State, not just those entities who want to advertise as a CCRC.**

**Require CCRCs to provide information at registration that shows that they have a good financial history and have opportunities for residents to be**

**engaged in and informed about their communities.**

**Clarify that CCRCs promising future health care at no or lower than market place costs complete periodic actuarial studies that are reviewed by the State's Office of the Insurance Commissioner.**

What do we think these amendments will do? We believe that these definitional changes will result in better consumer protections and financial protections for residents of all our State's CCRCs.

The next step is to see if the House Health Care and Wellness Committee adopts the amendments we have proposed. We will continue to keep you posted, so stay tuned. We will likely need your help again before this process is complete!

The bill is now scheduled for executive action on Tuesday April 1, 2025, in the Health Care and Wellness Committee.

We will continue to keep you posted, so stay tuned. We will likely need your help again before this process is complete.

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info@waccra.org

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